

PART-TIME or short hours: 27; unqualified; tall; Dispensing, Photography; excellent references; Manchester or Liverpool preferred. "Euthymol," 117 Portland Street, Southport.

MANAGER or Senior; experience in each capacity; 26; qualified; tall; Dispensing and Photographic; first-class references. "Glycosal," Heywood House, West Vale, Halifax, Yorks.

JUNIOR (20) seeks re-engagement; Bradford, Leeds, or Manchester preferred; 4½ years' experience, Dispensing, Photographic; good Counterman. Whiteley, 12 Bayley Street, Beeston, Notts.

ASSISTANT; 27; tall, good appearance and address; 10 years' experience; disengaged 25th inst.; outdoors; part or whole time; London or suburbs preferred. 104/27, Office of this Paper.

UNQUALIFIED, aged 25, desires a first-class situation in London; competent and obliging, and can be well recommended by present and past employers. "Methodical" (101/33), Office of this Paper.

ASSISTANT; aged 27; 5 ft. 10 in.; West end and suburban experience; well up photography counter, &c.; outdoor; good references. "Chemicus," 79 Stormont Road, Olapham Common, S.W.

LADY (qualified) desires engagement with Medical man, Institution, Chemist, or Wholesale house; disengaged; excellent testimonials and highly recommended. Miss Heath, The Dispensary, Rosebery Place, Dalston.

MANAGER; excellent Town and Country experience; aged 40; married; abstainer; disengaged end of February or March, desirous of permanency at a Branch. "Qualified" (105/4), Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED Manager; 25; married; 5 years manager; good experience, Prescribing, Extracting, Dispensing, Photography; good references; permanency; accustomed to Store business. 103/40, Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED; 21; good Wholesale and Dispensing experience, Photographic, and some Retail; part-time or short full time situation required; desirous of reading for Major. Apply, "McNab" (101/21), Office of this Paper.

DENTISTRY.—Chemist, aged 29, experienced all branches Chemistry and Dentistry, desires engagement to introduce Dentistry; would teach proprietor and assist in shop; disengaged February 1. "W. R.," 46 Oxford Terrace, London, W.

WANTED by elderly gentleman, qualified, position as Branch Manager, Locum, or Dispenser; Manchester or Liverpool preferred; active, reliable; good references. Address, "T. E. R.," c/o Mr. Blare, Chemist, 281 Broad Street, Pendleton, Manchester.

PHARMACIST who has successfully conducted businesses in London and Provinces, desires position as Manager or Locum in good-class Retail, London or Suburbs; aged 34; post with a view to purchase will be entertained; undeniable references. 104/12, Office of this Paper.

UNQUALIFIED; 26; Manager or responsible Assistant; accustomed to complete control; Extractor; Prescriber; Dispenser; up-to-date window-dresser; could work up neglected branch; height, 5 ft 10½ ins.; 12½ years' all-round experience. "Reliable" (98/11), Office of this Paper.

WHOLESALE.

PACKER, Home or Export; experience; energetic. 99/23, Office of this Paper.

ASSISTANT, 9 years' Retail, desires good Wholesale berth. Apply, 108/3, Office of this Paper.

LABORATORY: Wet or Dry Counter; 13 years' experience. 12 Duxess Road, Birmingham.

STOCKKEEPER, Packer, Despatch-clerk; 5 years' reference. "Cannabis," 37 Martin Street, S.E.

PACKING, Workroom Foreman, or the like; experienced, town and country. 107/36, Office of this Paper.

WANTED, situation in Wholesale; aged 25; good previous experience. "A." (96/27), Office of this Paper.

REPRESENTATIVE (London) open to treat with any Drug or Sundry house. "Exalgin," 2 The Parade, Norbury.

JUNIOR (19), 5 years' Retail experience, desires to enter Wholesale; London. "P. G.," 28 Riverdale Road, Plumstead, S.E.

CLERK; 12 years' experience in Wholesale Drug-houses; knows trade thoroughly. Apply, "H. E." (103/14), Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED (33) desires good position with good Wholesale firm; Home or Colonies. "Minor" (108/11), Office of this Paper.

YOUNG MAN requires situation as Improver on Wet counter, or Warehouseman. "A. L.," 2 Blomfield Terrace, Shepherd's Bush, W.

ADVERTISER (30) seeks situation; Wets, Dries, Specialities, or otherwise; excellent references; disengaged. 108/13, Office of this Paper.

REQUIRED by gentleman, qualified position in Wholesale firm; experienced in Laboratory and Travelling; good references. "T." (104/2), Office of this Paper.

ADVERTISER, Pharmaceutical Chemist and F.O.S., desires Laboratory appointment; skilled Analyst; could manage Laboratory. 104/28, Office of this Paper.

ENERGETIC and well-educated gentleman, with business ability and brains, desires position, to Manage department, or Travel; literary work. "Pushful," 55 Station Road, Finchley.

YOUNG Chemist (smart and energetic, good advertisement-writer and organiser) desires position in literary department of large firm; good experience. 103/25, Office of this Paper.

THOROUGHLY experienced (18 years in high-class Retail pharmacies) desires position in Wholesale house; aged 32; excellent references. Apply, 104/10, Office of this Paper.

WANTED, position as Manager of large Packing Department; Proprietary, Fancy, or Photographic Articles; large experience, especially of latter. "B.," 28 Locket Road, Wealdstone.

QUALIFIED Druggist, aged 21, German and French, desires a situation in a Drug-store, Laboratory or Pharmacy; would serve 2 or 3 months as volunteer. Cartier Jörin, Droguistes, Geneva.

GENTLEMAN, with thorough knowledge of Drugs and Surgical Instruments, requires post with Wholesale firm either as representative or in house; disengaged; good testimonials. 101/1, Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER, with connection in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Durham, and Scotland, is open to represent a firm with good connection on this ground; salary, expenses, and commission. Apply, 102/37, Office of this Paper.

SON of old-established Chemist, well educated and connected, seeks an introduction to the road; salary not so much an object as an opening where ability and energy would command a prospective position. 101/37, Office of this Paper.

WANTED by gentleman (B.A., Oxon.), late schoolmaster, position of trust as Representative or otherwise in a wholesale house; small salary to commence; highest references and testimonials. Campbell, 244 Bedford Road, Rock Ferry, Liverpool.

A GENTLEMAN of first-class business experience calling on Chemists and Grocers, Ireland, is open for a good Agency; commission and part expenses, or salary and part expenses; total abstainer. Apply, "Sundries" (106/17), Office of this Paper.

GENTLEMAN (25), 7 years' Retail experience leading houses, exceptionally good appearance and address, pushing Salesman, desires representation (Dublin and Irish provinces) good house; Sundries, Packed Goods, Perfumery, Soaps; moderate terms to start; abstainer; highest references; photo. "Sundries," Garnaville House, Brighton Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin.

AGENCIES.

3s. 6d. for 50 words or less; 6d. for every 10 words beyond.

Replies to Advertisements may be addressed to this Office and forwarded to the Advertiser for an additional charge of 6d. Trade circulars and samples can in no case be forwarded.

A FIRM of long standing in London, with Colonial connections, is prepared to undertake the agency for manufacturers of Chemicals and allied products. Apply, in the first instance, by letter to 38/45, Office of this Paper.

NEW IDEAS AND NOVELTIES.—A large firm is open to negotiate with a view to taking up and working new and practical ideas or suggestions for novelties and quick-selling lines. Write, 81/56, Office of this Paper.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Special charges are made for Advertisements under this heading, which can be obtained on application.

Replies to Advertisements may be addressed to this Office and forwarded to the Advertiser for an additional charge of 6d. Trade circulars and samples can in no case be forwarded.

MADAM & TUCKNISS, Sharedealers, 30 Tranquil Vale, Blackheath, London, S.E. Telephone 81 Lee Green.

SHARES ON SALE (free of all commission and subject).—48 Camwal ordinary 8/3, 25 preference 14/6; 30 Barclay & Son ordinary 12/3, 75 preference (12/ paid) 6/9; 50 Collins Eucalypti £1, 7½ per cent. cumulative preference (7/6 paid) 6/6 each (next dividend April); 20 Meggeson preference £5; 100 H. Cory & Co. ordinary 27/9 (with dividend 1/2 a share due this month); 130 G. B. Kent & Sons preference 20/4½; 100 Idris "A" preference 22/9; 20 International Sponge preference 18/7½; 20 Vinolia preference £4 1s. 3d.

WANTED (subject).—5 Camwal debentures £41; Barclay & Sons debentures 20; Bleasdale £3 12s. 6d.; 15 Wilkie & Soames preference £10 12s. 6d. x.d.; 15 Evans Lescher & Webb preference £5 7s.; 200 Idris "A" ordinary 27/3.

List of shares for sale and wanted sent free on application. Highest references to Bankers and many Chemists with whom we do business. All kinds of Stock Exchange business transacted on best possible terms.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CHEMISTS about opening new Premises.—We have positively the largest and finest Stock of Second-hand Fittings for sale at Unbeard-of Prices; drawings and full particulars on application; inspection invited; shops fitted completely. Rudduck & Co., Shop-fitters, 262 Old Street, London.

CHEMISTS' DRUG-FITTINGS, Drawers, Lockers, Shelves, Cornice 12-foot long, £12; Dispensing Counter, upright Perfumecase each side, mirror centre to ground, 6-foot long drawers at back, £10; 7-foot Wall Case, £10; Desk and Perfume Case, 50s.; 10-foot Counter, £3; Glass Shelves and Standards. Cheapest House for Second-hand Fittings. **TREBLE & CO.**, Complete Shop-fitters, Rectory Works, Rendlesham Road, Clapton, London, N.E.

SPECIAL BARGAINS IN SHOP-FITTINGS.—12-foot second-hand Wall-fixture mahogany Drawers, glass labels and knobs, £10; 120 Recess-label Rounds, £7 10s.; 150 Gold-labelled ditto, £5 17s. 6d.; Perfume Case and Desk, 42s.; 150-gallon Oil Tank, with Pump, £4; 6-foot Dispensing Screen, glass ends, mirror centre and marble slab, very handsome, £6. **R. TOMLINSON & SONS**, Headquarters for Second-hand Chemists' Fittings, Bond Street, Birmingham.

AGENTS and Customers wanted by J. ALBERT SCHMIDT, of Solingen (Germany) for the sale of his Specialities: Manicure Articles, Face-Massage Instruments, Razors and Barber Scissors, Knives and Scissors, Tweezers, Button-hooks, Shoe-lifts, Glove-stretchers, &c.; Household Articles, for Private Houses as well as Hotels, Restaurants, Hospitals, Nurseries, &c.; the "Jacatra" Self-acting Oook; Potato Peeling and Washing Machines; Clothes-dryers; Mincing-machines; Foot-scrappers (Mats); Oask-stands, &c.

SHOP-FITTINGS.—10-ft. range of drug-drawers, shelving, lockers, and cornice; 5 ft. 6 in. dispensing screen, bevelled mirror centre and show-cases on each side with mahogany-top counter under; 10-ft. mahogany-top serving counter; 6-ft. wall show-case; desk and perfumery case; window enclosure; mahogany plate-glass counter-case; £40 complete.

PHILIP JOSEPHS & SON, 93 Old Street, London, E.C.

CHEMISTS' Fittings.—Second hand high-class Fittings at low prices; 14-ft. run of Chemists' side-fitting, fitted mahogany-fronted drawers, bevelled glass labels, cut-glass knobs, mirror poison cupboard, centre lockers, shelves, cornice complete £15 10s.; mahogany plate-glass serving counter, 12 ft. long, £10; bent plate-glass counter-case, 6 ft. long, £4 17s. 6d.; cheap house for window enclosures, alterations, glass facias, stall-plates; chemists' fitted complete. Mills, Shopfitter, Shop-front Builder, Works 163-165 Old Street, London, E.C. (late 203 City Road).

Re JOHN NEALE, deceased.

PURSUANT TO THE STATUTES in that behalf, NOTICE is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any claim or demand against the Estate of John Neale, late of 21 George Street, Woolwich, who died on the 9th December, 1904, and whose Will was proved by the Executors therein named in the Principal Probate Registry of the High Court of Justice on 16th January, 1905, are required to send in the particulars thereof to me the undersigned, the Solicitor for the said Executors, on or before the 18th February next, at the expiration of which time the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets amongst the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the debts, claims, or demands of which the Executors shall then have had notice, and the Executors will not be answerable or liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose debt, claim, or demand the Executors shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 18th January, 1905.

JOHN FENN,
27, 28 and 29 Farnival Street, Chancery Lane, E.C.
Solicitor for the Executors.

American Notes.

THE DRUGGISTS OF CHICAGO are very much disturbed over the recent disclosure in that city that only 31 out of 139 decoy prescriptions for aristol resulted in the delivery of the pure product. The Elberfeld Farbenfabriken Co. are the prosecutors.

THE CARBOLIC ACID ORDINANCE in Chicago is working well. This provides that carbolic acid, if in solutions greater than 5 per cent. in strength, may not be sold except mixed with equal quantities of alcohol and glycerin, both of which are well-known antidotes to the poison. The result is that many persons intending suicide have bought the mixture and have been effectively foiled in their purpose. The Ordinance has thus acquitted itself admirably. A similar measure has been enacted in New York City, and other Acts are likely to be passed in other cities.

HELPING THE RETAILER.—Another large firm of manufacturers—the proprietors of the "Laxative Bromo-Quinine"—have come out in favour of the contract plan. Unlike other manufacturers, the Paris Medicine Co. have decided to stipulate for full prices. Altogether there are now four large proprietary concerns distributing their goods under the direct-contract and serial-numbering plan, and, in addition to these, there are six other manufacturers using a modified contract scheme which goes as far as the jobber only, but which binds him, under a monetary penalty, to see that the goods are not supplied to listed cutters.

METHYL ALCOHOL.—No fewer than nine men have died recently from drinking, out of a single container, wood or methyl alcohol. They were river boatmen in Kentucky, and had found the jug on board a sinking vessel. Numerous cases of this kind have occurred in this country and show convincingly that methyl alcohol is extremely toxic and should never be used internally. The subject is a pertinent one in pharmacy, for the reason that a certain class of manufacturers and retailers are said to use the article surreptitiously in preparing some pharmaceuticals, thus reducing the expense.

SUCCESS IN NEW YORK.—Organiser Duple and his staff of assistants representing the N.A.R.D. are having considerable success in organising New York City, and in developing a movement calculated to put a stop to the cutting which has existed in that city for so long. The N.A.R.D. believes that New York is really the keynote to the situation, inasmuch as it is the chief city of the nation and the source, commercially, of many of the nation's supplies in all lines of trade. Previous efforts have been made during the last two or three years to organise Greater New York, but they have failed on account of the size and complex nature of the city. The hopes are brighter now than ever before.

A PRELIMINARY STANDARD.—The Arkansas Board of Pharmacy has decided that hereafter all applicants for examination as pharmacists must present evidence of having had sufficient general education to admit of their entrance into the accredited high schools of the State. This means an education which the average boy completes by the time he is fourteen or fifteen years old. To exact this amount is not to demand very much, but the gratifying thing about it is that it registers a beginning which can be built upon from time to time. The Ohio Board of Pharmacy took a similar step a month or two ago, and for these and other reasons there is much hope for the development of higher preliminary standards throughout the country.

TEXAS QUICKSILVER.—According to the "New York Commercial," the Terlingua quicksilver-field in Texas yielded an output valued at over \$1,000,000 in 1904. One company alone has been producing about \$20,000 a month. There are at present three quicksilver-furnaces in operation in the district, and plans are preparing for the construction of others. Owing to the fact that the Terlingua quicksilver-district is situated in a remote part of Texas, about eighty miles from the nearest railroad and in a region close to the Rio Grande border, where population is sparse, very little information as to the importance of the field has reached the outside world. The New Almaden field in California is the only competitor of the Terlingua section.

Festivities.

Scarborough Chemists' Association.

A SUCCESSFUL GATHERING of this Association was held at the Balmoral Hotel on January 17, when twenty-five chemists and assistants sat down to a capital repast. Mr. H. Chapman, the President, occupied the chair, and he was supported by Mr. John Whitfield, F.C.S., and Mr. F. Foster. The toast of "The Scarborough Chemists' Association" was replied to by Mr. Whitfield, a chemist of fifty-one years' standing, who, comparing the pharmacist of the past with the present, thought the chemist was getting too mechanical. Mr. F. Foster also responded. Other toasts and songs followed.

The Chemists' Ball.

THE thirty-ninth annual Chemists' Ball was held on the evening of Wednesday, January 18, in the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole. The function was a very great success, and it looked as if 150 couples were present—an attendance which far exceeded that at any Ball in recent years. The large ball-room was at times inconveniently crowded, and the dancers at one period overflowed into the adjoining hall. Among those present were the following gentlemen, with their lady friends: Messrs. R. A. Robinson (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), J. Rymer Young, W. G. Cross, W. S. Glyn-Jones, A. W. Gerrard, E. W. Lucas, F. W. Truman, J. F. Harrington, Ernest A. Umney, J. C. Umney, H. C. Wright, F. W. Gamble, A. Solomon, G. B. Francis, W. J. Wallace, W. F. Gulliver, and most of the younger representatives of London pharmacy. After supper Mr. R. A. Robinson proposed the toast "Success to the Chemists' Ball," and, in doing so, said he was sure everyone would enjoy the Ball all the more by knowing that the gratification of their pleasure was a means of bringing comfort into the lives of some of their less fortunate brethren through the Benevolent Fund. He coupled with the toast the name of the Hon. Secretary of the Ball Committee, an old friend of his—(laughter)—whom he had known almost from his childhood—(laughter)—and of whom he could say seriously that whatever he undertook he put his heart into. (Applause.) Mr. R. A. Robinson, jun., in replying, referred to the valued assistance he had received from Messrs. J. W. Bowen and E. W. Hill as M.C.s, J. C. Umney and W. Warren as supper stewards, and Colonel Preston as wine steward. So, "on with the dance" until nearly day-break.

Teessiders Dine.

THE members of the Teesside Chemists' Association held their fourth annual dinner at the Grand Hotel, Middlesborough, on January 12. Mr. H. Middleton-Taylor, the President, occupied the chair. Among those present were Mr. R. A. Robinson, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. J. Gregory, Stockton (Vice-President of the Association), Dr. Hughes, Dr. Wilson, Dr. Howell, Mr. Prescod (Newcastle), Mr. Clague (Newcastle), Mr. W. Finlayson (Stockton), Mr. W. T. Coltman (Middlesborough), Mr. W. R. Brackenbury (Middlesborough), Mr. Arthur Lee (Middlesborough), Mr. A. Salmon (Stockton), and Mr. J. C. Thompson (Middlesborough). Mr. Brayshay (Stockton) proposed the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society" and Mr. R. A. Robinson replied at some length. Mr. Robinson went into the history of company pharmacy, and, in considering the remedies for the present state of affairs, said: "We cannot go so far as to ask that no company should carry on business as chemists, but we do ask that such companies should be subject to the same restrictions as private individuals." The Pharmacy Bill had been blocked by those who had financial interests in the large co-operative and limited liability companies. These men contended that if the assistant is qualified, the public are amply protected. The Pharmaceutical Society has been endeavouring to meet this question, and the Council on the previous day decided to modify the clause. Continuing, Mr. Robinson said he had had numerous interviews with the permanent officials of the Privy Council, and had been obliged to admit that the public would be protected if there was one qualified director in charge of the drug department of a company pharmacy. If the company did not want

to employ a qualified chemist, then, he should say, "Drop your drug department." Legislation has taken place in our Colonies where this principle was conceded—in the Orange River Colony and in the Transvaal. In our newest possessions the man in charge of the drug department must be a qualified chemist, and he had recently pressed this point upon the Government. The Privy Council officials seemed to have taken up a little more reasonable attitude, and had asked for an amended clause, which has accordingly been drafted. He hoped that with the modified clause the opposition would cease, and the prospects of the passing of the measure improve in a corresponding degree.

Mr. Ellington gave the toast of "The Medical Faculty," and observed that, as far as Teesside was concerned, they had a body of men who supported the chemists to a very marked extent. Dr. Howell and Dr. Hughes replied. Mr. J. Gregory proposed "The Visitors," which Mr. Clague and Dr. Hedley acknowledged. Mr. R. A. Robinson gave "The Teesside Chemists' Association and Kindred Societies," Mr. A. Salmon and Mr. J. C. Thompson responding. The concluding toast was that of "The President," given by Dr. Williams, and acknowledged by Mr. H. Middleton-Taylor. During the evening several musical selections were rendered by Mr. Whatford, Mr. Austin Graham, Dr. Howell, and Dr. Sharp, Mr. Ellington acting as accompanist.

"Ut Veniant Omnes."

THIS was the motto adopted by the students of the Central School of Pharmacy for their annual dinner, which was served at the Bedford Head Hotel, Bedford Square, W.C., on Tuesday, January 17. There was a goodly gathering, and mine host served an excellent dinner, after which toasts, songs, and recitations made up a most enjoyable evening, the entertainment being carried on until 11.30 p.m. In reply to the toast of "The School," given from the chair, the Principal of the School (Mr. C. Edward Sage, F.C.S.) reported on the progress made during the past year, and told where some of the successful students have gone. He particularly lamented the death of Mr. Mackenzie, one of the distinguished students, who had stayed in the School afterwards as demonstrator in botany, and who had done a great deal in connection with Y.M.C.A. social work. The toast of "The Old Boys" was given by Mr. Elliott Brooks, and responded to by Mr. T. C. Mansell, who, by the way, opened the entertainment with a pianoforte solo. Mr. F. W. Cannon, of Baldock, was another of the old boys present who had the opportunity of giving the meeting a taste of his eloquence. Among those who contributed to the lighter part of the entertainment were Mr. H. E. Cresswell, Mr. Eugene MacSweeney, Mr. E. Elliott Brooks, Mr. G. F. White, Mr. J. Harwood Brooks, Mr. Sage, Mr. W. H. Bown, and Mr. J. F. Hardwick. The arrangements for the dinner were made by Messrs. H. E. Cresswell and P. J. A. Cathcart, and their service in this respect was heartily acknowledged by the company before they separated.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL DINNER of the Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Institution is to take place at the Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., on February 10.

THE SHEFFIELD CHEMISTS' BALL is to be held at the Royal Victoria Hotel on February 9. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each (including supper), may be had from Mr. H. G. Williams, Hon. Secretary, 118 The Moor, or from any of the stewards.

THE ANNUAL DINNER and smoking-concert of the West Ham Chemists' Association will be held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, E.C., on February 9. Mr. Ernest Gray, M.P., and Mr. Walter Hill have promised to be present. Tickets, 4s. 6d. each, may be had from Mr. F. W. Gwinn, 143 Cann Hall Road, Leytonstone, N.E.

A DINNER in connection with the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association is to be held on February 2 at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge. Dr. Donald Macalister and Mr. R. A. Robinson are to be the guests of the evening. Tickets, 5s. each, may be obtained from Mr. B. S. Campkin, 74 Mill Road.

THE ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER of the Peterborough Chemists' Association is to be held at the Grand Hotel, Peterborough, on February 9. Mr. R. A. Robinson (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), Mr. A. S. Campkin, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Mr. F. A. Rogers (Western Chemists' Association), and Mr. R. Bremridge are to be present. Tickets, 4s. each, may be had from the Hon. Secretary.

Exchange Column—Bargains.

TERMS.

1d. per word with name and address. **1d.** per word if we register the address and attach a number.

No Advertisement inserted for less than 6d.

Limited to the Advertisements of Surplus Stock, not of a Wholesale character, of Shop Fittings (secondhand), Apparatus, Photographic Goods, Books and Periodicals, Formulae, Addresses Wanted, and Articles Wanted.

DEPOSIT.—The purchaser of anything advertised in the Exchange Column may remit the amount to us, and we only pay the money deposited on advice from the remitter. We charge a commission of 6d. on any transaction of £3 or less, or 1s. if above that amount, which is payable by the purchaser.

Remittances payable to EDWARD HALSE, and crossed MARTIN'S BANK, LIMITED.

FOR DISPOSAL.

APPARATUS.

Combustion-furnace, 16 burners; cost £3, price 35s. "S," 128 Victoria Street, S.W.

For disposal.—Half horse-power gas-engine (Robey, Lincoln), complete, £9, a bargain; also small Robinson's patent hot-air engine. W. F. CHARLES, Baxter Gate, Loughborough.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

"Pharmaceutical Journal" posted Friday, what offer? also offers for *Pharmaceutical Journal, Chemist and Druggist, 1902-1904?* 14 Crown Road, E. Twickenham.

Squire's, 8s. (new); Wills's "Chemistry," 6s. (new); Bentley's "Botany," 10s.; Knight's and Muter's "Materia Med.," 3s. each; Proctor's "Pharmacy Lectures," 8s.; Thorp's "Non-Metals," 2s. 6d.; Stuart's "Physics," 2s. 6d.; or offers for part or whole. MILLS, 4 High Street, Exeter.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

1 oz. Bullock's pepsin porci; 8s., post free. HATFIELD, Chemist, Limehouse.

Overstock.—2,000 aspirin tabs. (gr. v.), 12s. 6d. per 1,000, post free. E. JAMES, 31 High Street, Sutton, London.

Pot. iodid., B.P., 5 lbs., 50s.; original bottle Hotchkiss peppermint, 21 oz., 21s. J. OALLAWAY, 7 Wilson Street, Finsbury, E.C.

FORMULÆ.

Increase income selling splendid sauce; recipe 5s.; limited number. Write, "MAIN CHANCE" (93/37), Office of this Paper.

Valuable workable formulæ.—Brooks's New-Year Offer.—Winter requisites easily made, very profitable.—Glycerine Oream, elegant, non-sticky skin-preserver; Brisco, new hair-saver and producer, has proved excellent; Glycerine-and-licorice Balm, cheap, pleasant, rapid cough-cure; Skintona, new liquid court-plaster, dries quickly and heals; Depilatory, quick, safe, and certain; Flavoco, new cure for chil-blains, instant action, profitable; White Oils, inseparable, creamy, penetrating liniment; above seven for 3s. 6d., four for 2s. 6d., with instructions, post free; reduction for quantities during month; lists free; 21st year's offering. TOM BROOKS, Ohemist, Hornsey, London, N.

OPTICAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC.

Butcher's 50s. "Midg" camera; also 2-guinea folding pocket Kodak; good condition. What offers to 15/15, Office of this Paper?

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES.

Overstocked.—6 doz. 1s. bottles Armour's pepsin tablets; what offers, carriage paid? MERCER, Ohemist, Llandudno.

56 Mellin's emulsion, 7s. 6d. doz.; 16 Goddard's boot-top powder (soiled), 3s. doz. HOWARD, Chemist, Gt. Yarmouth.

SHARES.

Shares for sale.—See Miscellaneous column (p. 58).

SHOP FITTINGS.

Scales, dispensing, Maw's fig. 1925; never used; best offer. 109/1, Office of this Paper.

Drug-fitting, 10 ft. 6 in., mahogany, 6-in. drawers, glass knobs—almost new. DRUGS, 66 Kennington Park Road, S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Fitted Swedish ship's medicine-chest, in good order; price 50s. HATFIELD, Ohemist, Limehouse.

Southall's £2 15s. materia-medica cabinet; good condition; what offers? 104/20, Office of this Paper.

Water-bed, full size; nearly new; perfect condition; good maker; £4 10s. ABRAHAM, Long Sutton, Wisbech.

Water-bed; cheap; equal to new; 36 x 72; may be seen. WILLOUGHBY, 78 Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, W.

52 doz. Jancke's round (2 x 1/2 in.) metal boxes, gold and silver colour, in cartons; 35s. lot. "G.," 22 Waldegrave Road, Brighton.

20,000 new 12 to 14 in. loofahs, 12s. 6d. gross; why pay double? delivered. BUTTERWORTH, Ohemist, Moss Lane East, Manchester.

Inhalers, 6 metal (as Coghill's), 1 vulcanite (mouth and nose); nipple-shields, 12 black rubber, 1 celluloid; unsoiled; lot 9s. 102/3, Office of this Paper.

Water-bed for sale; 6 ft. x 3; excellent condition; not used for infectious case; price £3, cost £6 10s.; 11 months' use. PEARCE, Choulston, Netheravon, Salisbury.

Dental forceps, 9 nickel-plated, made by British Dental Manufacturing Company; cost £2 18s. 6d.; are as new; will take 35s. DAY, Scaldhurst House, near Rochford, Essex.

4 cwt. linseed meal, B.P., 14s. cwt.; 5 cwt. linseed cakes, 9s. 10s. 6d. cwt.; 4 cwt. Egyptian cotton-cakes, 7s. 9d. cwt.; 1 doz. 1s. 1 1/2d. Daisies, 8s. 6d., carr. paid. "MANAGER," 52 West Street, Oldham.

WANTED.

Compo mortar, No. 8, 9, or 10. State price, McKEE, Chemist, Acton, W.

Check-till. Particulars and price to "B.," Binfield House, Olapham, S.W.

Dental books. State edition, date, condition, price, LITTLER, Chemist, Chesterton, Staffs.

Optician's trial-case (secondhand). ELLIOTT & Co., Chemists, 192 Uxbridge Road, W.

Southall's "Materia Medica" and Lawson's "Botany." FARRADAY, 82 Egerton Street, Oldham.

Tincture-press, 2 or 3 gal.; good order; cheap. RAMSDEN, 208 High Street, Borough, London.

Secondhand chemical apparatus for Minor exam. State articles for disposal and price, "C.," 142 Walmer Road, Notting Hill, W.

Mortar and pestle, capacity about 4 gals., with swinging handle. M. Dept., RAYBOULD, WHITEHOUSE & Co. (LIMITED), Manufacturing Chemists, Dudley, Worc.; est. 1878.

"The Chemist and Druggist" for April 28 and July 28, 1900; also February 22, March 8, April 19, May 31, and August 9, 1902. Send p.c., with price, to JONES, Office of this Paper.

ADDRESSES WANTED.

Address of Mr. Arthur White, of Weymouth; supposed to be in Brighton. BUCKLEY, 111 Earl's Court Road, S.W.



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GOOD BUSINESS.

It is good business for agents, manufacturers, and wholesalers to give instructions for a good advertisement of their goods in the next issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, January 28. That will be the Winter Issue—one of those splendid, business-promoting productions, which are the admiration of all but the envious, and the consummation of advertising enterprise. It will be welcomed by thousands of buyers at home and abroad, who are waiting for it in order to help make good their stocks thus early in the year. It is an issue for well-conceived and well-displayed advertisements, and the Publisher will gladly assist advertisers in making their announcements right. The Winter Issue will go to press a day earlier than usual—i.e., on Wednesday. In consequence the Publisher cannot receive displayed advertisements for the issue later than Tuesday, January 24, but advertisements for the Coloured Supplement will be received up to Thursday, January 26, at 2 P.M. Correspondents should also note the earlier closing-day.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

FESTIVITIES held during the past week are dealt with in our Coloured Supplement.

NEW OFFICIAL CHARGES for stamping measures have been gazetted, and are noted on p. 70.

THREE SACCHARIN LAWSUITS have been heard in the High Courts during the past week (p. 80).

HARRY HEWITT, a chemist's assistant, has at York been committed for trial on a charge of murder (p. 72).

ANOTHER mixture of salts will be available on Tuesday for distribution to Students' Corner competitors (p. 70).

A NUMBER of useful dispensing problems have been discussed by Edinburgh assistants, for which see p. 93.

THE names of those who have passed the Irish pharmaceutical and druggists' examinations this month are given on p. 73.

THE NEW CLAUSE 7 is blessed (with faint praise) by "Xrayser" (p. 85), and by Mr. James Reid, who writes on the subject on p. 94.

A SECOND REPORT on the Cape Industrial Exhibition is contributed by our correspondent on the spot. It refers chiefly to English exhibits (p. 101).

THE TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY have had a dinner at which the prospects of pharmacy in the Colony were amicably discussed by most of the speakers (p. 103).

THE CASE *Smylie v. Gibson*, arising from the liquidation of the Ulster Chemists, Ltd., was in the Dublin High Court on January 17, and proceeded a step further (p. 81).

FEDERATION SUBJECTS were discussed at some length by Mr. H. Antcliffe at the Sheffield Association's meeting this week, some interesting points being advanced (p. 92).

MR. LEGGETT, Secretary of the P.M.V. and Drug-stores' Association, protests against the way Mr. Glyn-Jones brought a circular of his into the Bradford case. We reprint the circular (p. 95).

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in declining to promise to remove the sugar-duty, declared that the acrated-water industry has not suffered by it, and gave his reasons why, which will be found on p. 71.

OUR OBITUARY COLUMNS are again very heavy this week, among the losses by death being Mr. S. Daniel (Swindon), Mr. J. W. Evans (Lampeter), Mr. F. M. Mercer (London), and Mr. J. A. Wink (London). See p. 88.

MR. J. C. UMNEY, in a letter on the cod-liver oil prosecutions, protests against actions being instituted without sufficient consideration, and suggests that the drug-trade should give the matter thoughtful attention with a view to protective action (p. 94).

IN a spirit-of-nitre case at Deal it was shown that the samples were put in large bottles which permitted escape of ethyl nitrite (p. 82). This is one of the imperfections in S. F. & D. Acts administration, which should be included in the protest on p. 86.

THE CHELSEA COD-LIVER OIL CASES were decided by the Kensington Magistrates on Tuesday, the summonses being dismissed. For the defence Dr. Lewkowitsch, Mr. Cassal, and Mr. J. C. Umney testified that the oil was pure. The case is fully reported in this issue, beginning on p. 75.

THE BRADFORD MAGISTRATE holds that preparations of veratrine sold as vermin-killers are not in Part 2 of the Poisons Schedule, and has convicted a chemist for treating one as such. The decision is to be appealed against (p. 82), and meanwhile the law stands where it did. See p. 87.

THE SUBJECTS dealt with at the Pharmaceutical Society's evening meeting this week were liq. plumbi subacet. and liq. ammon. acet. by Mr. G. F. Merson, iron arsenates by Mr. W. Duncan, and lin. potass. iod. e. sapone by Mr. Peter Boa. Abstracts of them and the discussions are on pp. 73-80.

THE New Zealand patent-medicine movement has developed considerably since our last. We report what happened at Victoria Street when the P.A.T.A. and Manufacturers' Association called. Sir J. G. Ward, who is responsible for the regulation, has received two deputations, and he has stated that he will not require the formulæ to be put on the labels, but merely to be given to the Head Medical Officer (p. 103). We protest against the whole proceedings as a piece of blundering (p. 87).

Corner for Students.

CONDUCTED BY LEONARD DOBBIN, Ph.D.

Students, please note. All communications should be addressed to the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

All communications and reports must bear the names and addresses of the writers, not necessarily for publication. The reports of those who ignore this rule are liable not to be dealt with.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS FOR JUNIOR STUDENTS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture will comprise acids and inorganic bases occurring in the British Pharmacopœia, and is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Tuesday, January 24, and the samples will be posted on the following day.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, February 4. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

SPECIAL NOTE.—The analysis announced above forms the fourth exercise in our analytical tournament for the current winter session. The usual monthly first and second prizes in this series of analyses will be awarded only to apprentices or assistants who are preparing for the Qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain or of Ireland, which fact must be attested on their reports.

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

At Dowsby, near Billingham, two bullocks were found dead, and an investigation led to the discovery that they had been poisoned by eating yew.

The Home Office has issued new regulations in regard to tar-distillation. They include instructions as to fencing, cleaning, inspection of stills, gassing, respirators, use of lights, and so forth.

The girl Lewis who stole a cashbox containing 81l. from the shop of Mr. Henry A. Hobbs, chemist and druggist, of Penarth (*C. & D.*, January 7, p. 2), has been sent to a reformatory for four years.

Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., manufacturing chemists, are about to erect a new disintegrator-shed at the Phoenix Mills, Dartford, and plans for the structure have been approved by the Urban District Council.

Mr. Francis Sheridan gave a demonstration of his "Photosotype" printing-process at Messrs. Barclay & Sons, Ltd., 95 Farringdon Street, E.C., on January 16. The process was referred to in the *C. & D.*, January 14, p. 45.

The sanitary regulations agreed upon by the Incorporated Guild of Hairdressers in conjunction with the medical officer of health for the City of London are meeting with serious opposition from the provincial branches of the guild. Those of Birmingham, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen have definitely refused to consider the regulations.

A paragraph (apparently communicated) appeared in the "Times" of January 14 intimating that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society has resolved that the Pharmacy Acts Amendment Bill shall be introduced into the House of Commons at the earliest opportunity, probably by Mr.

T. Lough, M.P., and a large number of members on both sides of the House have already promised their support.

An inquest was opened at Southampton, on January 12, regarding the death of John Booth, manager of a branch of Boots, Ltd., at 182 High Street. It was adjourned for a *post-mortem* examination, which revealed the fact that death was due to syncope resulting from disease of the mitral valves and old lung-adhesions. It was in no way due to a bromide draught he had taken.

At the Bristol Police Court on January 12, Edmund Cook Hurst, a young man of gentlemanly appearance, described as a chemist's assistant, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for obtaining money by false pretences. The evidence was that Hurst called on clergymen, describing himself as a certified apothecary in reduced circumstances, and in some cases obtained money. The police detective stated that Hurst had been employed at a chemist's shop at Watford, Herts, but the police had not been able to find out why he had left that situation.

Weights and Measures Act, 1904.

The Board of Trade, with the approval of the Treasury, has made rules fixing at 30s. the fee to be paid in future on the examination of persons nominated to act as inspectors of weights and measures; prescribing the fees to be paid on the examination and testing of new patterns of weights and measures and instruments submitted under Section 6 of the Act. The Board has also prepared a new scale of fees to be taken by inspectors of weights and measures on the verification of weights, measures, etc., in use for trade, in lieu of the present scale contained in the first schedule to the Weights and Measures Act, 1889. These fees are scheduled to an Order in Council made on January 12, and will become operative on February 1. The alterations in the charges are chiefly in the class of subdivided measures to which apothecaries' measures belong. The following should be substituted for the paragraph under this head on p. 240 of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*:

	Each s. d.
From 32 gals. and above 8 gals. :	
When the number of subdivisions does not exceed six	1 6
When exceeding six, then for each additional six subdivisions or less than six...	0 6
From 8 gals. to 1 gal. :	
When the number of subdivisions does not exceed six	1 0
When exceeding six, then for each additional six subdivisions	0 4
From ½ gal. to 1 pint :	
When the number of subdivisions does not exceed six	0 3
Exceeding six, each additional six subdivisions	0 1
For ½ pint and under :	
When the number of subdivisions does not exceed six	0 2
Exceeding six, each additional six subdivisions	0 0½

Alderman Gibson's Golden Wedding.

On Monday, January 16, Alderman Gibson and Mrs. Gibson celebrated their golden wedding. The employés of the Carlton Works, Manchester, presented them with a magnificent golden vase, bearing the following inscription :

Presented to Mr. Alderman and Mrs. Gibson from the employés of Messrs. R. Gibson & Sons, Ltd., on the occasion of their Golden Wedding. January 16th, 1905.

Alderman Gibson is the head of the firm, R. Gibson & Sons, Ltd., medicated-lozenge manufacturers, Hulme, Manchester. He is a pharmaceutical chemist and the originator of the well-known chlorodyne lozenges. The Alderman has been Lord Mayor of Manchester.

P.M.V. and Drug-stores Association.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of this Association was held at the Green Dragon Hotel, Leeds, on January 18. Mr. Walter Huntrods presided. It was unanimously decided, amid acclamation, to instruct the Association's solicitor to brief counsel in the event of an appeal in the Bradford cases. Correspondence was read by the Assistant-Secretary in connection with the sale of Fenning's Fever-curer, which can now be sold by all licensed medicine-vendors. The following resolution was also passed :

That this meeting, on account of the very unfair manner in which the annual report of the P.A.T.A. was issued by the use of the word "chemist" instead of "members," and on account of the close association of the P.A.T.A. and the C.D.A., hereby resolves to advise the whole of its members

to discontinue any further financial support to the P.A.T.A., while at the same time agreeing to maintain P.A.T.A. prices.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Huntrods, Mr. Leggett (Secretary), and Mr. Beeby (Assistant Secretary).

Dear Sugar.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer received a deputation representing the sugar-using trades and subsidiary industries on Friday, January 14, to urge the remission of the duty on sugar on the ground that it is a tax on raw material, and is exercising a disastrous effect on their trades. The deputation also complained of the effects of the Brussels Sugar Convention. The speakers were Mr. E. Edwards (Leicester), Mr. G. E. Davies (Bristol), Mr. F. Brown (Stockport), Mr. Francis Fry (Bristol), Mr. R. Johnson (President of the National Union of Mineral-waters Associations), Mr. J. J. Ball (R. White & Sons), and Mr. R. Hunter (St. Helens). Mr. Austen Chamberlain's reply was to the effect that he could not hold out any hope that in the present condition of the national finances it would be possible for him, or for anyone in his position, to dispense with the revenue derived from sugar. In the course of his remarks he said respecting the complaints that the aerated-water industry has suffered much from dear sugar:

The figures in regard to receiving orders do not show it. In 1900 there were 15, in 1901 there were 20, in 1902 there were 13, and in 1903 there were 11. And for the years from 1892 to 1902 the average number was 11.8. I believe that the figure for 1904 is nearly the same. . . Are mineral-water manufacturers doing so badly? I have here the dividends of half-a-dozen firms. One firm between 1898 and 1903 has paid dividends varying from 17½ to 20 per cent., rising in 1902 even to 34 per cent. Another firm has paid dividends in the same period of 15, 17, 17, 14, 14, and 10 per cent. A third firm has paid a steady dividend of 10 per cent., with a bonus of 2½ per cent. last year; and a fourth firm has paid a dividend of 10 per cent. in each of the four years ended 1903. There is only one firm on my list which has shown bad results, but those bad results were in existence before the imposition of the tax, and other explanations than the tax itself must be sought for them.

Contracts.

Mr. A. F. Corfe, chemist, will supply disinfectants for nine months to the Maidstone Urban Council, the amount being 161*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*

Mr. S. C. McKee, chemist and druggist, Acton, W., has received the contract for drugs, sundries, etc., for the Acton Isolation Hospital.

Mr. H. W. G. Morris, chemist and druggist, has secured the contract for the supply of disinfectants to the Corporation of Chipping Norton for the ensuing twelve months.

The tender for the supply of oils, paints, etc., for the engineers' department of the Scarborough Corporation, for the year 1905, sent in by Messrs. J. M. Crosby, Ltd., 73 Newborough, has been accepted.

The contract for the ensuing year's supply of medicines, etc., to the Ramsgate Board of Guardians has been secured by Mr. J. H. Skitt, chemist and druggist, of 68 King Street, Ramsgate. Three other applicants were very close competitors with Mr. Skitt, while the highest tender came from a local "co-operative drug-store."

Fires.

A slight fire occurred on January 12 in the basement at the pharmacy of Mr. H. Squire, at 176 Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

The premises of Mr. F. J. Oliver, chemist, Gabriel's Hill, Maidstone, were the scene of a fire on Friday evening. Fortunately the fire was confined to the room in which it originated, but much damage was done to the premises before it could be got under.

On January 13, at Thameshaven, near Stanford-le-Hope, a tank containing about four hundred tons of benzene exploded, but owing to the efforts of the people at Thameshaven Wharf the conflagration which ensued was confined to the one tank, and the flames were prevented from spreading. The tank burnt itself out without doing any further damage, the fire lasting several hours.

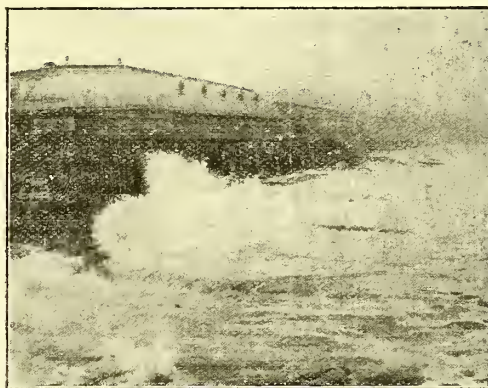
Chemical-refuse.

At Clerkenwell Police Court on January 13, Messrs. Johnson & Matthey, assayers, Hatton Garden, W.C., were summoned for causing chemical-refuse to flow into the

sewer belonging to the Holborn Borough Council. The prosecution was undertaken by the London County Council, as the main-drainage authority for the Administrative County of London, and it was stated that sulphurous fumes were noticed to arise from the sewer at Hatton Garden, and a special inspection was made. It was found that the sewer was corroding at the point where the drain from the defendants' premises entered, and the process continued for some distance along the local sewer into the main sewer. A fluid was seen to run from the defendants' drains, and pails were hung to catch some of it. The zinc pails were eaten away and the sewer-men had their hands burned and were nearly suffocated with the fumes. On analysis of the samples of the discharges it was found that the fluids were respectively hydrochloric acid and sulphuric acid. In reply to the Magistrate, prosecuting counsel said there would probably be a civil action, and the summons was adjourned.

By the Sea.

The great tidal wave which swept up the Straits of Dover on Saturday, January 7, threatened at one time to do serious damage to the business premises attached to the new Pavilion at Ramsgate. The branch pharmacy, opened in the summer by Mr. Edward Baily, pharmaceutical chemist, at the exposed corner facing the East Pier, seemed to be the centre



of the attack. The great force of the waves not only smashed to atoms one large sheet of plate glass, but also burst open the door (which was locked), tearing away about a foot of the solid woodwork round the lock. The impact of successive breakers split the deal wall of the photographic dark-room from top to bottom, and forced back against the side-wall the counter fixed at right-angles to the door. The gas-piping was contorted into corkscrews. Fortunately all fixtures of value, as well as most of the stock, had been removed by the proprietor, who, from previous experience, had some knowledge of Father Neptune's omnipotence during an equinoctial gale.

The Chemist Commended.

At an inquest held at Heeley on January 18, on the body of a young man named Holling, the wife stated that her husband a week before told her he had taken some arsenic for a pain in his chest. He was taken ill, but would not allow her to send for a doctor until a few days ago, as he thought he was getting better. Dr. Patorson said that when he was called in the man was in a state of collapse. He admitted having taken three-quarters of a teaspoonful of arsenic. If he had been called in earlier there might have been a chance of saving the deceased's life. Mr. J. Gilbert Jackson, chemist and druggist, of Abbeydale Road, said he had known the deceased well for some time. He sold him 1 oz. of arsenic on January 9. He mixed the arsenic with lime blue—about a drachm—wrapped it in paper, and labelled it on both sides "Poison." The deceased said he wanted the arsenic to clean clothes with. Mr. Jackson asked him if he would take something else in place, but he would not. Mr. Jackson warned him to be very careful how he used it. The Coroner congratulated Mr. Jackson on the manner in which he had conducted the sale of the poison, and was quite sure in his own mind that he had complied with the Act in every way. He thought Mr. Jackson would be very pleased to hear that from him.

A Murder Charge.

The inquest on the aged couple named Hewitt, found murdered in their house at York on December 30, 1904 (*C. & D.*, January 7, p. 4), resulted in a verdict of wilful murder against Harry Hewitt, an adopted son of the old people. In the course of the evidence it was stated by a police-sergeant that in April last year he was called to the house of the Hewitts to eject the prisoner. Mrs. Hewitt then said that prisoner was not their own son, but an illegitimate child they had adopted. They brought him up and educated him. He served his apprenticeship as a chemist with Mr. Shillito, of Monk's Bar, and after that was at Castleford, but he had done no work for three years.

Not his Custom.

At Kensington on January 13, Mr. Drew held an inquiry into the death of Catherine Boyle (59). The evidence was that deceased had suffered from sciatica for years. Dr. Gregory was called in, and he gave her a bottle of medicine, and a smaller bottle of liniment. On January 9 a friend gave her the liniment in mistake for the medicine. Dr. E. T. Gregory, of Redcliffe Gardens, said the liniment consisted of belladonna and chloroform. It was put into a bottle with a red label, "Not to be taken—for external application only." It was not his custom to use blue fluted bottles. Deceased died from belladonna-poisoning. The Coroner and jury were of opinion that it would be better for poisonous liniments to be placed in blue corrugated bottles. A verdict of death from misadventure was returned.

Coroners and Chemists.

An inquest was held at West Hartlepool on January 11, before Mr. Bertram Watson, Deputy-Coroner, on the body of Elizabeth Gowler, three years old. The mother stated that deceased seemed to have a cold, and she took the child to Mr. Thomas Clarkson, chemist and druggist, who gave her some medicine, and told her to keep the child warm. Witness gave the child some of the medicine every two hours, and after the last dose had been given the child seemed worse, and her husband went for the doctor, but the child died before the doctor arrived. Mr. Clarkson deposed to supplying Mrs. Gowler with a mixture composed of sweet spirit of nitre, Mindererus' spirit, simple syrup, and camphor-water, coloured with burnt sugar. It also contained thirty drops of paregoric. Dr. Campbell stated that in his opinion death was due to convulsions, the result, most probably, of some internal irritation. A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.

At an inquest held at Hammersmith on January 16, by Mr. Drew, relative to the death of a child named Boddington, the father stated that he went to Jones's chemist's shop, the Barandon Road Drug-stores, for threepennyworth of cough-mixture. When the child got worse they tried to get a doctor, but death occurred before his arrival. John Jolliffe, chemist and druggist, said he managed the chemist's shop at Barandon Road. He remembered the last witness coming for cough-mixture. Witness inquired as to the symptoms, and sold a stock-mixture of ipecacuanha-wine and tincture of benzoïn. He did not keep the same stock-mixture to give for all kinds of coughs: he added to it if necessary. Dr. Samuel Strange, of Goldhawk Road, W., said death was due to croupous pneumonia. With treatment earlier the child would have had a better chance. Ipecacuanha in a large dose would be harmful, as it would act as a depressant. Mr. Jolliffe said it was only a two or three minim dose. The doctor then replied that would do no good and no harm. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

The Chemist Censured.

At an inquest held at Sheffield on January 12, the Deputy-Coroner (Mr. J. Kenyon Parker) considered statements made regarding the action of Mr. Charles Little, chemist and druggist, 197 Attercliffe Road, Sheffield, so serious that he adjourned the inquiry to enable Mr. Little to obtain professional assistance. A labourer's wife, named Connolley, purchased twopennyworth of laudanum at Mr. Little's shop and consumed the whole of it, dying afterwards in the infirmary. The husband of the deceased woman alleged that when it was discovered that deceased had taken the laudanum, a daughter told Mr. Little, who

went to the house and gave the woman an emetic. After vomiting she was laid on a sofa and, according to the husband's statement, Mr. Little then left the house, giving instructions that they were not to let the woman go to sleep for at least two hours. Thinking his wife better, the man went to work, and on returning found that she had been removed to the infirmary. The Coroner asked why witness did not send for a doctor, and he replied, "Because the druggist said there was no necessity to send for one." Dr. Barnes deposed that the cause of death was morphine-poisoning. He should certainly not have considered it safe to have told the people in charge that if they could keep the woman awake for two hours she could go to sleep afterwards. Mr. Little said he had a witness in court who was in the house and saw all that took place. Herbert George Marsden thereupon gave evidence that he was in Mr. Little's shop when deceased purchased the laudanum. Later on the deceased's daughter came to the shop, and asked Mr. Little to go to the house. He did so, and witness accompanied him. Mr. Little gave the deceased two glassfuls of mustard-and-water, and, upon witness's suggestion, a glassful of salt and water was given to her. This caused Mrs. Connolley to vomit, and after drinking some coffee she appeared to be much better. Before leaving Mr. Little told the daughter not to let her mother go to sleep, but did not say anything about the two hours. Mr. Little also said, "If she gets worse, send for a doctor." Mr. Little stated that he had a full answer to all that had been said. The inquiry was then adjourned. At the adjourned hearing, on January 16, Dr. Smith said as the result of his *post-mortem* examination his opinion was confirmed that the woman died from laudanum-poisoning. He found that she was suffering from heart-disease and bronchitis. A daughter of the deceased stated that she twice asked Mr. Little if she should send for a doctor. He said it was not necessary. A neighbour corroborated, saying she heard Mr. Little say to the previous witness, "Keep her awake two hours, and she will be all right if she vomits well." Mr. Charles Little, chemist and druggist, deposed that deceased had often purchased laudanum from him in twopennyworths twice a week. When he went to the house at the request of the daughter he administered emetics of mustard-and-water and salt-and-water, and coffee was afterwards given. After being sick the woman was better, and when the daughter asked if a doctor would be required he replied, "If she gets worse send for a doctor, otherwise I don't think there is any need." He left instructions not to let the woman go to sleep, but did not mention "two hours." The Coroner, in reviewing the evidence, said in his opinion the chemist committed a very grave error of judgment in not insisting upon the family sending for a medical man. He asked the jury to add a rider to their verdict to the effect that it would have been better if Mr. Little had insisted upon a doctor being called in. This the jury did.

The Week's Poisonings.

Four of the thirteen deaths from poisoning that have been recorded during the week were misadventures. Five fatalities were due to laudanum. It was taken with intent to poison by a fruit-salesman, named Ibbotson, of Harpurhey; by Thomas Boothway, a Sheffield carter; by Hannah Herbert, of Whittington Moor; by Mrs. Mather, of Romford; and the case of Mrs. Connolley, of Sheffield, mentioned elsewhere. In the case of Mrs. Herbert the laudanum was supplied by Mr. Thomas Elliott, chemist and druggist, Whittington Moor. The narcotic with which Ibbotson poisoned himself was supplied by Mr. J. H. Kidd, chemist and druggist, 714 Rochdale Road, Manchester, the suicide stating that he wanted it to make a lotion for his feet. Dr. W. H. Holden, of Exeter, took an overdose of morphine, and died. The belladonna-and-chloroform liniment case is referred to elsewhere. A Whitehaven girl, named Mary Ellen Glaister, committed suicide by taking a solution of oxalic acid. Ellen Purdy, a domestic servant at Westminster, poisoned herself with carbolic acid. The arsenic-poisoning at Sheffield is noted on another page. An imbecile child in Kentish Town obtained some potassium cyanide and poisoned herself. The unscheduled poisons used were hydrochloric acid and sulphuric acid.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

The following are the pass-lists of the recent examinations held in Dublin:

Pharmaceutical Licence Examination.—W. E. Bredin, C. E. Digges, J. Ritchie, and T. Finegan passed. Nine candidates were rejected.

Registered Druggist Examination.—A. Ingram, J. Waugh, and A. L. Martin passed. Two candidates were rejected.

Pharmaceutical Assistant Examination.—W. Smyth and D. Warwick passed. Two candidates were rejected.

Preliminary Examination.—Elizabeth Roe, W. Hunt, H. M. Kelly, P. Gleeson, J. F. Browne, W. T. McConnell, and J. B. Faichney passed. Seven candidates were rejected.

Music at Belfast.

The annual musical evening of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland is to be held in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, on January 26. Sir James Haslett, M.P., is expected to preside, and a good entertainment is foreshadowed. Tickets are free.

Hospital Surgeon's Suicide.

Dr. Owen M. Praeger, resident surgeon at Belfast Fever-hospital, was found dead in his room on January 16. By his side was a bottle containing prussic acid. At the inquest held subsequently a verdict of suicide was returned. Deceased was thirty-five years of age. The news of his death created a sensation in the hospital, many patients being moved to tears.

Personal.

Sir James H. Haslett, M.P., chemist and druggist, Belfast, is seriously ill at his residence, with a bronchial affection.

Mr. J. W. Harvey, pharmacist, Great George Street, Cork, has opened a branch medical hall at Main Street, Mallow, under the management of Mr. D. C. McDougall, late of Dublin.

Miss Jane Townley Wells, second daughter of Mr. W. F. Wells, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, has passed with credit the Junior Sophister Term examination of Dublin University.

Sir Thomas W. Robinson, M.P.S.I., managing director of Hayes, Conyngham & Robinson, Ltd., pharmacists, Dublin, has been returned at the top of the poll as a member of the Kingstown Urban District Council.

At the recent municipal elections for Dublin City and suburbs, several chemists tried their fortunes on the municipal hustings with success, including Mr. S. P. Boyd, who was elected (unopposed) as councillor in the East Ward, Rathmines; and Dr. J. C. McWalter in the North City Ward, Dublin. In Victoria Ward, Belfast, Mr. John Watson was returned at the head of the poll.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Glasgow Notes.

It is likely that a local branch of the Chemist-Opticians' Society will be formed here before long.

The annual social function of the local Association is to take the form of a dinner, to be held towards the end of February.

The local Association's special committee on early-closing has now reported to the Council, and as the *plébiscite*, as far as it goes, is in favour of shorter hours, the Council has arranged for a personal district canvass, with a view to concerted action.

The new outdoor dispensary buildings at the Western Infirmary, which were opened on January 18, are constructed and fitted up on the most modern principles. The appointments include an elaborate electro-therapeutical ap-

paratus. The drug-dispensary waiting-room accommodates seventy persons and has two service openings with sliding doors from the dispensing-room. The dispensing-room measures 30 by 20 feet, and is furnished with all the most improved fittings and appliances. Adjoining this room is the laboratory, which contains the aerated-water plant and an outfit of steam-pans, and there is also a fireproof room for the storage of inflammables. The planning of the fittings, etc., is principally due to Mr. T. Blair, the chief dispenser, who has held that post with conspicuous ability for many years.

A Proprietary Claim.

Some time ago an interest in a Dundee proprietary article was disposed of for, it is stated, 800*l.* and now the lawyers are negotiating a claim in respect to the matter.

Personal.

Mr. R. B. Wilkin, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. D. Mason, Rodney Street, Edinburgh.

Mr. R. Gordon Drummond, chemist and druggist, High Street, Falkirk, has been appointed a manager of the Falkirk Savings-bank.

The "Kilmarnock Standard" last week gave Mr. G. F. Merson, F.C.S., Messrs. Rankin & Borland's new manager, half a column of introduction to the nightcap town.

Persons having claims against the estate of the late Mr. Kenneth Miller, chemist, Wick, are requested to lodge the same with Mr. Andrew K. Miller, Accountant, Oldwick, Wick, before January 26.

Mr. James Fernie, chemist, Pierhead, Newport, has sold his business to Mr. A. Chalmers, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and will shortly leave the burgh in order to proceed to Natal, on account of the state of his wife's health.

Mr. D. Draper Duncan will shortly begin business as a chemist and druggist in new premises erected in Graham's Road, Grahamston, Falkirk. Mr. Duncan is a Falkirk "bairn." He served his apprenticeship in his native town, and has since been in Edinburgh.

Mr. John W. Bennie has resigned his appointment as manager to Messrs. Cochran & Co., chemists and druggists, Vicar Street and Newmarket Street, Falkirk, and Mr. Alexander Smith, has been appointed as his successor. Mr. Bennie intends to devote all his time to his Polmont business, which he opened three years ago. Mr. Smith belongs to Falkirk, but since qualifying has been in Glasgow, Arbroath, and Edinburgh.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE LEGION OF HONOUR boasts two fresh pharmaceutical chevaliers since the opening of the new year. One is M. Chabert, pharmacist at Tunis, and President of the French Charitable Society (*Société de Bienfaisance*) of that town; and the other M. Emile Bourquelot, Professor of Galenical Pharmacy at the Paris Superior School, head pharmacist of Laennec Hospital, and Permanent General Secretary of the Paris Society of Pharmacy.

AULD ACQUAINTANCE.—One of the oldest and best-known faces has recently disappeared from the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy. Louis Tessier had served twenty-five years as attendant in the micrography laboratory, a post for which his minute exactitude and constant vigilance rendered him peculiarly fit. His parsimony and economy in distributing slides were proverbial among the students, and even during holiday-time he could not resist the temptation of occasionally looking in to see all was well with his cherished collections. The soul of punctuality and order, he died peacefully, after but a few days' illness, during the Christmas holidays.

A RESIGNATION.—M. Victor Rièthe has announced his intention of resigning his position as Chairman of the General Association of French Pharmacists. The reason alleged is ill-health and a reluctance to continue to occupy the post. But the real cause is probably to be found in the severe criticisms made in the South of France upon the Association's action with regard to the draft of the new Pharmacy Act—criticisms which, in the opinion of MM. Rièthe, Crinon, and others, overstepped the bounds

of fair and reasonable comment and partook of the nature of a Press campaign. M. Rièthe has invariably shown great tact and intelligence in dealing with delicate points connected with the pharmaceutical-speciality (patent-medicine) trade and in many other ways. He very justly holds an authoritative and leading position in French pharmacy.

MORE NEW YEAR'S DECORATIONS.—The violet ribbon of the "Officer of Academy" being principally accorded for literary, scientific, or educational work, it is only natural that pharmacists should figure largely on the list. This January there are four Paris pharmacists (MM. Vitalis, Tajan, Renard, and Louis Miller) and two provincials (M. Rimbaud, of Martignes, Bouches du Rhône, and M. Vigouroux, of Castelfranc, Lot). The superior grade of the same Order, looked upon by many as a possible stepping-stone to the Legion of Honour, has been awarded to three Paris pharmacists, MM. Blanchard, Robert, and Bavay. The last-named will be familiar to those who have read the articles on French naval pharmacy in the *C. & D.* as the ex-Chief Pharmacist of the Marine. M. Baize, of Coutances, M. Mauget, of Nantes, M. Loubion, of Montauban, and M. Maronneau, of Mostagnac, represent respectively Norman, Breton, Gascon, and Algerian pharmacy on the same honours list.

Colonial and Foreign News.

CHEMISTS' STRIKE.—The chemists of Courtrai, who supply the medicaments to the indigent people assisted by the Charity Society, have decided to discontinue the practice from January 4. It is said that the society, under the pretext of saving, became stingy as to the price and quantity of the medicaments. Last year the services of certain doctors were dispensed with on the ground that they prescribed "too many drugs." The chemists, believing that the Society seeks to impose draconic conditions, have informed the committee that they do not wish to listen to any more humiliating propositions. They demand a contract for five years, and if it is not accorded to them they will cut off the supply of drugs.

MEDICINE-TAX IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The "Official Bulletin" of November 7 contains the text of a Presidential decree laying down regulations for the collection of the tax on specialties for medicinal, dietetic, or veterinary use. The decree provides that all importers of special articles for medicinal, dietetic, or veterinary use shall apply to be registered in accordance with the conditions of Article 1 of Decree No. 3889, and the application should be addressed to the Director of Inland Taxes, with the list of the articles to be imported. No importer may clear from the Customs any of the articles mentioned in Article 2 of Law 4039 without the previous production of a certificate from the Director of Inland Taxes of his having obtained the number of stamps required for each individual bottle or packet of patent medicine imported by him. It is the duty of the importer to deliver to the National Department of Health in the Federal capital a detailed account of the medical specialties mentioned in the statement for the purpose of their despatch, subject to the payment of the duties. The request for the stamps must be made in writing, accompanied by a certificate showing that the amount representing their value has been deposited in the National Bank in favour of the Inland Taxes Department, and the request must be accompanied by the manifest and detailed declaration duly certified by the National Department of Health. The stamps must be affixed to the packages by the importer within fifteen days of the goods being taken out of bond, and in the manner determined by the Inland Taxation Department, it being understood that the goods must remain in their original packages until the stamps have been affixed corresponding to the quantities contained. Every importer of specialties subject to taxation must keep a register controlled by the Administrator of Internal Taxes, in which he must enter, in chronological order, the articles taken out of bond, showing the quantity of goods requiring to be stamped, and in the same order and form the quantities that are sold and the name of the buyer. The decree concludes with the penalties for infraction of the law, and it is stated that the register will be open for inspection.

Australasian News.

Communicated by the Australian Staff of "The Chemist and Druggist."

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug-trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," a journal established by the proprietors of this journal, and published in Melbourne, Vic. Copies of the monthly issue can be obtained at 6d. each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the following, among other societies:

Central Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.
Canterbury (N.Z.) Pharmaceutical Association.
Otago Pharmaceutical Association, N.Z.
Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.
Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.
Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.
Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.
Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia.

Commonwealth.

LEGALITY OF THE P.A.T.A.—Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, barrister-at-law, contributes an instructive article to the December *C. D. A.*, in which he reviews the legal aspects of the price-regulating plan of the P.A.T.A. The conclusion arrived at is that the position of a voluntary association combined for mutual protection is perfectly safe, but it is pointed out that there should be no threatening of proprietors with boycott and no condition of membership should be imposed upon those who are to deal in the goods.

RECIPROCITY WITH SOUTH AFRICA.—The present position of reciprocity of pharmaceutical diplomas between Australasia and South Africa is as follows. The Cape Colony Pharmacy Board recognises the certificates of Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania. The Pharmacy Board of South Australia cannot come to terms, as the Cape Board requires recognition of certificates only and South Australia can only accept reciprocity on the whole register basis. Nothing has been arranged in regard to New Zealand, but negotiations are still in progress. The Orange-River Colony recognises British and Colonial certificates, and in the Transvaal a New Zealand certificate has been accepted.

New South Wales.

PUBLISHING FORMULÆ OF PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.—Dr. Arthur, of the N.S.W. Legislative Assembly, has given notice of a Bill to compel the publication of the formulæ on the labels of proprietary medicines. The Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales has discussed the proposals and has suggested that the Bill should provide for a commission of three persons—a medical man, a pharmacist, and a business man—who should consider the merits of each proprietary article from the three points—(1) whether the formula contains any noxious drug, (2) whether any false statement appears in any advertising matter, and (3) whether the price of the article is exorbitant. The pharmacist would be one who is not in business.

New Zealand.

ERGOT PRESCRIPTIONS.—The Launceston chemists recently discussed the question, "What should be done when a prescription is received for ergot or similar drugs from an unknown writer?" The consensus of opinion was that the prescription should be dispensed, provided there is nothing to show that it is written by a layman, and remembering that ergot is prescribed for hæmorrhage. It was considered inadvisable to decline to dispense a prescription presumably written by a medical man, but the receiver could always say he was out of one of the ingredients.

THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT is to consider the advisability of opening out the resin and turpentine industry at present worked by the Provincial Forest Department to private enterprise. A Calcutta firm has come forward with an offer to take up the industry, which yielded a net profit of Rs. 22,000 to the Punjab Forest Department in 1903-4.

The Colour-tests for Cod-liver Oil.

The Kensington cases are concluded in favour of the Defendants, the Magistrates holding that Cod-liver Oil is an article liable to decomposition, and that the Colour-test is not altogether reliable.

THE third hearing of the cases against Chelsea chemists for selling adulterated cod-liver oil took place at the Kensington Town Hall on Tuesday, January 17, before a full bench of magistrates. The chairman, Mr. H. B. Halswell, was supported by Alderman R. A. Robinson, Dr. B. Forman, Dr. C. H. Bennett, and other medical men, all of whom took a keen interest in the proceedings.

Mr. F. Smith, solicitor, again appeared for the prosecution; while Mr. A. Macmorran, K.C., and Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones (instructed by Neve, Beck & Kirby) were for the defendants, Mrs. Fowke and Thomas Davies.

At the outset Mr. Macmorran proposed to begin *de novo* by taking evidence in Mr. Davies's case, but Mr. Smith demurred, saying that the object of the adjournment was to get additional evidence in Mrs. Fowke's case. Mr. Halswell agreed, but thought the Magistrates would like to have their memories refreshed as Mr. Macmorran had suggested. After some further conversation it was agreed to go on with Mrs. Fowke's case, the Chairman saying he would like to hear a report of it. He believed that a good one had appeared in one of the trade journals, but as that was not in court the Clerk read the minutes of the evidence. This done, Mr. Macmorran said he would at once call his additional evidence.

EXPERT EVIDENCE.

Dr. Julius Lewkowitsch, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S., was the first witness. He said he had had twenty-five years' special experience in the chemistry and technology of oils and fats. He had published several works on the subject, and one of his books had gone through three editions. For ten years he had been consulting adviser to a large number of works, and had invented processes which were used on a large scale in various oil and soap industries. He had examined a sample of the cod-liver oil in dispute, sent to him by Mr. E. J. Parry. The sample was turbid, through containing some water in a state of emulsion. The first thing he did was to remove the water. As a result of his examination he found the specific gravity 0.9288, saponification-value 188.1, Reichert value 0.43, iodine-value 165.9, free fatty acids 0.48, and unsaponifiable substances 1.15 per cent. All these were normal figures for a good cod-liver oil. The refraction was also normal, and the freezing-point test according to the British Pharmacopœia. The Reichert figure, he said, merely gives a measure of the volatile fatty acids contained in the oil. The oil was pale in colour, and the taste was good. Speaking generally, it was a good sample of pure cod-liver oil. He was decidedly of opinion that no fish-oil could have been used to adulterate the sample. The colour itself would especially exclude the possibility of a fish-oil being present. The three fish-oils used in commerce are Menhaden oil, salmon oil, and Japanese fish-oil, and it could not have been any one of these. Witness, at the request of Mr. Macmorran, then produced samples of each of these oils for the inspection of the Magistrates. The samples were dark brown, brown, and a deep yellow respectively. Continuing, Dr. Lewkowitsch said none of these oils could possibly have been used as an adulterant without betraying its presence by taste and colour. There is no other fish-oil in commerce except sardine oil, which is similar to Japanese fish-oil. There are other oils allied to these, which might be used as adulterants, known as blubber oils—whale oil, and seal oil. These are much lighter in colour than the fish-oils referred to, and therefore cannot be detected at sight, but their presence would be revealed to the taste of a connoisseur. (Laughter.) He could easily have detected a blubber-oil in the sample by taste or by chemical tests, but he was confident that the sample contained no blubber-oil. With regard to the Reichert value, his figure (0.43) as compared with Dr. Rideal's (2.1) was comparatively low, but both figures were perfectly consistent with an unadulterated oil. His (witness's) figure

was normal for pure fresh cod-liver oil, but a perfectly pure and unadulterated cod-liver oil might show a high Reichert value. The B.P. colour-test (violet colouration with sulphuric acid) is only useful in identifying the oil as a liver oil. The same result would be obtained from the liver oil of any fish—shark-liver oil, for instance. He had made long and extended examinations into the question of colour-reactions for cod-liver oil. In 1894 he had published in the "Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry" the results of a great number of experiments, which showed that, as a test of adulteration, the sulphuric-acid test mentioned in the B.P. was of no value whatever. In his book "Chemical Analysis of Oils, Fats, and Waxes," he stated that a number of other colour-tests were valueless, and in the last edition he omitted them altogether.

Dr. Forman: Do I understand you to say that ten years ago you made public the fact that the sulphuric-acid test is of no value, and yet it is still entered in the Pharmacopœia?

Dr. Lewkowitsch: Quite so; the German Pharmacopœia adopted a more useful form of this test.

Dr. Forman: Then you are at direct variance with the Pharmacopœia authorities, and say the test is useless?

Dr. Lewkowitsch: The test is useful only in identifying the oil as liver oil and as indicating the presence of foreign substances which the improved processes of manufacture nowadays have almost entirely eliminated. As a matter of fact, in my experience, the less carefully prepared the oil, the more intense is the violet in the reaction obtained.

The Chairman: But the B.P. is the standard, and the Somerset House certificate says the sample is not genuine cod-liver oil.

Mr. Macmorran: No; the certificate says that the sample "does not conform to the tests specified in the B.P.," and my contention is that according to the monograph if an oil is supplied that is made from the fresh liver of the cod, the "characters and tests" are not binding on anybody.

Continuing his evidence, Dr. Lewkowitsch said the violet colour really indicates some foreign matters, derived from liver-tissue, present in the oil. The violet colour actually depends on these foreign substances, and supposing an absolutely pure cod-liver oil be tested it should give no violet reaction whatever. Cod-liver oil contains considerable quantities of glycerides of unsaturated fatty acids. The effect of adding concentrated sulphuric acid to cod-liver oil is that it browns or blackens the oil. The more carefully prepared the oil, the more preponderant is the brown colour over the violet. It is impossible, in witness's opinion, to discriminate between shades. There is no such thing as a standard violet. He applied the sulphuric-acid test to the sample in dispute and got a brown colouration with distinct violet streaks. The violet colour indicated remnants of foreign substances, but the brown preponderated, as he would expect in good cod-liver oil prepared from fresh livers. The so-called Meyer's test he also used, but in his opinion it, too, is useless for indicating adulteration. It gives much the same results as those given with slightly diluted sulphuric acid, the violet colour being brought out more prominently. He examined other samples of undoubted purity side by side with this one. One that he had kept for ten years showed no colour-reaction.

Dr. Forman: Did you say you had kept a sample fresh for ten years? Excluded from light and air, I suppose?

Dr. Lewkowitsch: Not altogether from light but entirely from air. Continuing, witness said he had found, as a matter of common practice, that the better the taste of the oil, the less the violet reaction. He had also applied the German Pharmacopœia test (dissolving the oil in carbon bisulphide and then adding sulphuric acid) and got a stronger violet colour. Unger's test is absolutely useless. It was introduced twenty years ago, when cod-liver oils were still prepared from putrid livers, and Unger himself

based his tests on oils made from such livers. It merely indicates impurities that have not been found in cod-liver oils for the past ten years. Witness had used Unger's test on dozens of samples of cod-liver oils, and those that gave the test tasted the worst. The sample he examined was a sample of pure cod-liver oil prepared from fresh livers. Cod-liver oil is a substance liable to decomposition like any other oil or fat, but more so than solid fats. The presence of water renders it liable to decomposition. He had applied to the oil all the tests for purity that are applicable.

AN UNEQUAL CONTEST.

The cross-examination of Dr. Lewkowitsch was extremely amusing. The chemist, keen, cool, and an expert in his subject, played with the prosecuting solicitor, Mr. Smith, who good-humouredly admitted his ignorance of chemistry, but submitted the doctor to a lengthy examination mainly on statements in his own book. Mr. Smith first asked Dr. Lewkowitsch whether he still agreed with the statement in the third edition of his work to the effect that "in consequence of the high prices, adulteration of cod-liver oil is practised extensively." Witness said the statement was correct when written; the price of cod-liver oil at that time was 240s. per barrel, as against 80s. at the present time. Mr. Smith pointed out that it was the 1904 edition of the book he was quoting from, and witness agreed that the remark might apply to the time at which the cod-liver oil in dispute had been purchased. He agreed that detection of adulteration in cod-liver oil constitutes a very difficult problem. Seal oil gives no violet colouration, but a brown.

Dr. Forman: Do I understand you to suggest that keeping the present tests in the *Pharmacopœia* is playing into the hands of adulterators of cod-liver oil?

Dr. Lewkowitsch: Not quite; the tests are those of fifty years ago, and help to indicate merely that the oil is a liver oil and that it contains impurities which have been practically got rid of by improved processes of manufacture years ago. It is playing into the hands of the careless manufacturer.

Mr. Smith: Why did you not advise the B.P. authorities on the subject?

Dr. Lewkowitsch: I wasn't asked. (Laughter.)

Mr. Smith: But did not you volunteer information?

Dr. Lewkowitsch: I don't volunteer anything. (Laughter.)

Cross-examination continued: He agreed that well-prepared cod-liver oil kept carefully could be preserved for ten, or even twenty, years without showing evidence of decomposition. He explained, however, that decomposition does not in any way refer to colouring-substances. He could not say how long an oil could be kept without decomposition. That depends on a good many things. He had given all the tests applicable to finding if the cod-liver oil sample was adulterated. He did not use the phospho-molybdic test given in his book because it would not have told him whether the oil was adulterated or not.

Mr. Smith referred witness to a page in his book in which he spoke of the test in another page being the only reliable one for cod-liver oil. The phospho-molybdic test was mentioned on that page, but witness floored the solicitor by pointing out that the phospho-molybdic test was mentioned incidentally *after* the one which he recommended, and that he wrote *test*, and not *tests*; concluding, amid much laughter, "So here we are where we were five minutes ago." The tests he employed, witness repeated, were the B.P. test, the Ph.G. test, and Meyer's test. He had gone further, and, using still more diluted sulphuric acid, had obtained a more pronounced violet the more dilute the acid used. He agreed that the iodine-value alone would not be a sure indication of unadulterated cod-liver oil. He could detect the presence of seal oil in a sample by taste.

This admission Mr. Smith at once seized on. Up to this point he had been industriously prompted by Dr. S. Rideal, the public analyst, both generally standing together, and Mr. Smith repeating Dr. Rideal's questions, which the audience had already heard. Now Dr. Rideal handed Mr. Smith a test-tube of oil with the label carefully concealed, and Mr. Smith asked Dr. Lewkowitsch if he could tell whether it contained seal oil or not. Witness at first demurred, but ultimately accepted the tube, saying he declined to do anything so foolish as to give a definite

opinion without verifying it by chemical tests. He tasted the oil, and said he should be very suspicious of it, and would, if it were submitted to him, apply further tests.

Continuing, witness said that if the sample agreed with all the tests he had described, and which he had applied in the case of the sample under dispute, he would have no hesitation in saying it was a genuine cod-liver oil.

Re-examined by Mr. Macmorran: Pure cod-liver oil has a high iodine-value, which is reduced by the presence of seal oil. A reduction by 20 per cent., as alleged in this case, would be decisive. The mere taste of the sample in dispute showed the Reichert value given by Dr. Rideal to be wrong. The phospho-molybdic test would have only shown that the oil was a liver oil. It is of no use in indicating adulteration. The B.P. authorities had carried forward the sulphuric-acid test from the edition of 1867 to those of 1885 and 1898, notwithstanding the changes in manufacture and the valuelessness of the test as a means of detecting adulteration.

ANOTHER PUBLIC ANALYST'S VIEW.

Mr. C. E. Cassal, F.I.C., public analyst for Westminster, Kensington, Battersea, and various counties, deposed to examining a sample of the cod-liver oil in dispute. It had a turbid appearance, owing to the presence of water. There was a greyish deposit or coating on the lower part of the bottle. This, as the result of microscopic examination, he came to the conclusion was probably decomposed milk. It was absolutely necessary that samples of cod-liver oil for analysis should be taken in dry, clean bottles. His analysis showed sp. gr. 0.9285, Reichert figure 0.57, iodine-value 157.7, and Zeiss refractometer-number 70.5. With sulphuric acid (90 per cent.) he obtained a violet colour passing rapidly to brown, and with the Ph.G. test a violet passing to brown, but not so rapidly. The nitric-acid test gave a rose changing to brown. He thought, in the face of such results, it was not possible to say the oil was adulterated. He did not think much of the B.P. tests. In cross-examination, Mr. Cassal said the discovery of what he took to be decomposed milk would probably not apply to the Somerset House sample. He did not agree that removing the water from the sample of oil would lower the Reichert figure.

Alderman Robinson: Would you, as a public analyst, certify by these tests that a sample contained 20 per cent. of seal oil?

Mr. Cassal: Certainly not. I do not think it possible to ascertain a definite percentage by colour-tests. The colour-test of the B.P. is a mere negative indication that does not justify a public analyst in certifying an adulterated oil.

FOR PHARMACY AND TRADE.

Mr. John C. Umney, F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, director of Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., said, in reply to Mr. Macmorran, that he is a member of the Committee of Reference appointed by the General Medical Council to assist the *Pharmacopœia* Committee in the compilation of the new B.P. He has had fifteen years' experience in the business of his company, which deals largely in cod-liver oil, and he had served an apprenticeship with the late Mr. William Martindale. He and Mr. C. T. Bennett had examined a sample of the cod-liver oil in dispute only so far as colour-reaction was concerned. They came to the conclusion that it was a genuine oil, and there was no justification for saying it was adulterated with 20 per cent. of any other oil. With sulphuric acid he obtained a purplish-violet colouration, rapidly changing to purplish brown. He had made numerous experiments with cod-liver oil, and had published the results. These experiments were directed very largely to showing the reliability or otherwise of the colour-tests. With regard to the sulphuric-acid test, he knew that it is only of value as indicating a liver oil, and its value is diminished according as impurities are eliminated by the process of refinement. The finer the oil, the less the colour-reaction. Oils of undoubted purity showed great variation in reaction. The colour-reaction would probably decrease if the oil were kept for some time. The presence of water would reduce the colouration. He had been consulted about the 1898 B.P. monograph for cod-liver oil.

In cross-examination, witness said he did not think purification made the oil lose its value. The new processes of refinement had resulted in the elimination of

biliary products. In his opinion, although all the bile salts were removed, a cod-liver oil is still genuine.

Dr. Forman: But we have had it in evidence that the value of cod-liver oil is due primarily to bile salts.

Mr. Umney: I think there is some confusion between the value of bile salts and certain glycerides contained in the oil.

In reply to further questions from the Bench regarding the medicinal value of cod-liver oil and the B.P., Mr. Umney said: The British Pharmacopœia is not intended for use under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, but is only for the guidance of pharmacists and physicians in compounding and prescribing. The description states what the pharmacist is expected to supply, but the "Characters and Tests" are not binding on experts as indicating absolute purity, but are intended to aid in the determination of compliance or otherwise with the description set out. I have the honour to be one of the Committee of Revision, and [this in reply to a question from the Bench] I shall certainly advise that the cod-liver oil monograph be considerably altered from that given in the 1898 edition.

MEDICAL EVIDENCE.

Dr. Joseph John Perkins, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.P., said he had had some ten or twelve years' experience in the use of cod-liver oil as a medicine. Its value he believed consisted simply in the ready digestibility of its fat. Formerly cod-liver oil was made from putrid livers, but now it is made from fresh livers. Judging from the description given of the oil in question, he considered that it must have been pure cod-liver oil. In cross-examination witness said the chief value of cod-liver oil consists in its ready absorption and assimilation by the digestive organs. The theory regarding the presence of bile salts is not generally accepted nowadays, and is not his view.

Dr. H. K. Thompson, F.R.C.P., stated that he had had large experience in the medicinal use of cod-liver oil. Its value is due to it having a digestible fat. He believed that the biliary salts in the oil are of no particular medicinal value. Cross-examined: He could not say exactly what made cod-liver oil easily digestible, but it certainly is not the biliary salts. In his opinion good olive oil is just as good, from a medicinal point of view, as cod-liver oil.

At this stage the Magistrates adjourned for luncheon, and resumed at 2.20 p.m.

THE DAMP BOTTLES.

When Mr. Cassal was in the witness-box a statement was made to the effect that the oil was supplied by Mrs. Fowke in a bottle, but Mr. Macmorran denied this, and said he could call the assistant who sold the oil.

The Magistrates allowed this to be done, and after luncheon

Mr. W. H. Hurn, chemist and druggist, was recalled and stated that the inspector's deputy who asked for the oil brought his own bottle, which, witness noticed, did not appear quite clean: it had a cloudy appearance.

Inspector Grant, recalled on behalf of the prosecution to give a history of the bottle in question, stated emphatically that it was absolutely "chemically clean and dry." (Laughter.)

Alderman Robinson: You cannot say that. Do you know what "chemically clean" means?

The Inspector: Oh, yes. (Laughter.) We never use bottles twice for samples. We smash the old bottles and always use fresh ones.

Cross-examined: He got the bottles from Mr. Linstead, of Gale Road, Chelsea.

Mr. Macmorran: Isn't he a second-hand bottle dealer?

The Inspector: Not that I am aware of. I paid 6s. a gross for them. (Laughter.) The pint bottles cost 1s. 6d.

Alderman Robinson: You do not want to do yourself an injustice, Mr. Grant, but you know that Linsteads are not bottle-manufacturers.

SUMMING UP.

Mr. Macmorran said the Magistrates had to decide no ordinary case of adulteration of cod-liver oil. It was a matter which depended entirely upon the evidence of experts, and their deliberation should be approached with diffidence. There was no certainty in the case, as no one could positively say that the sample of cod-liver oil had been adulterated. It had been suggested that the sample was

adulterated with fish or blubber oil, and he had put in the box the best living expert on the subject, who had shown them that it is a genuine oil, and that it was impossible to conceive how it could have been adulterated. The prosecution on uncertain results had brought an unfortunate chemist before them. The chemist gets the oil from merchants of repute, who in turn buy from manufacturers of the highest standing. The wholesale dealers, of course, come forward to protect their customer and to prove the purity of their products. The proceedings at that court stood to cost them about 300l., and all upon a suggestion that the sample *may* be adulterated. He (counsel) contended that it would be in the highest degree unsafe to convict in a matter of that kind. The adulteration must be made out beyond reasonable doubt—a thing the prosecution had not done. With regard to the authority of the British Pharmacopœia, all that it holds is that if a purchaser asks for an article mentioned in the British Pharmacopœia, he is entitled to get what is described therein. But beyond description the Pharmacopœia is no authority. Cod-liver oil is described in the B.P. as

The oil extracted from the fresh liver of the cod, *Gadus Morrhua*, *Linn.*, by the application of a temperature not exceeding 180° F. (82.2° C.); and from which solid fat has been separated by filtration at about 23° F. (–5° C.).

That was what was asked for and supplied. The "Characters and Tests" are in no sense binding on the seller in the sense of the description. Supposing Mrs. Fowke had manufactured her own cod-liver oil in the way described and had sold it to the prosecution, that was all to which the purchaser was entitled, even if the oil did not answer any of the tests. But it had been shown that the B.P. tests were antiquated, and had ceased to be strictly accurate because of improvements in the processes of manufacture since the monograph was written. The sulphuric-acid test is only useful as indicating a liver oil, and the violet reaction is caused by something not necessary for cod-liver oil at all. He desired likewise, although holding to the merits of the case, to take a technical objection with reference to the form of the certificate. It had been clearly shown—Somerset House had said so in a letter to the Magistrates—that cod-liver oil is "an article liable to decomposition," and no mention of that fact was made in Dr. Rideal's certificate. He asked the Bench to read *Hudson v. Bridge*, the latest High Court decision on that point, in this connection.

Mr. Smith said the Borough Council of Chelsea did not see their way to spend further money on the prosecution in that case than had already been done. He submitted that they had proved that the cod-liver oil did not comply with the requirements of the B.P. The Medical Officer of Health for Chelsea had proved that when people ask for cod-liver oil they expect something containing medicinal properties not contained in that sample. Bile-salts, he had told them, were necessary in a genuine cod-liver oil. It was very curious, if on the merits of the case the Borough Council was wrong, that the Somerset House analyst (who had been subpoenaed by the defence but not examined) should entirely bear out the analysis of Dr. Rideal. With reference to the form of certificate, he did not admit that the question was decided in *Hudson v. Bridge*. If that were so, then public analysts would require to have a form regarding decomposition printed on their certificate, for there would be few cases in which it would not be applicable. He quoted Mr. Justice Channell on the point.

The Chairman: In practice we have found that analysts all put that clause in, in spite of what you have quoted from Mr. Justice Channell's judgment.

The Magistrates then retired, and after deliberating for about a quarter of an hour, the Chairman, on their return, said that, as the case might go to a higher Court, they had written their decision, which the Clerk read, as follows:

We hold that cod-liver oil is an article liable to decomposition unless properly kept, and therefore the certificate of the public analyst is bad, as there is no observation made therein as to whether any change had taken place in the constitution of the sample that would interfere with the analysis.

Upon the evidence we consider that the colour-test is not altogether reliable, and the balance of the evidence given before us is that the oil was good, and on that ground we also dismiss the summonses.

Mr. Macmorran applied for costs, but the Chairman said the Bench thought it a proper case for the Council to bring as a public duty, and declined to grant costs. The prosecutors are to pay the costs of the Somerset House analysis.

Two similar summonses were withdrawn. One was against Mr. Thomas Davies, chemist and druggist, 485 King's Road, Chelsea—20 per cent. of foreign fish-oil certified; and the other against Mr. William M. Spurling, also a chemist and druggist, 187 Marlborough Road, Chelsea—10 per cent. of foreign fish-oil certified. In reference to the last case Mr. Morl, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. Spurling, solicitor), complained that his client had been put to expense by the adjournments, and he thought he should get costs, but the Magistrates refused.

"It Pays."

CARRYING out their principle of educating their employees thoroughly for the work they have to do, the National Cash-register Co. arranged for its St. Louis Exposition lecturer, Mr. E. S. Thomas, to deliver his lecture before the members of the convention of the company's representatives in Great Britain and Ireland. This he did on Tuesday evening, January 17, in the Grand Hall of the Hotel Cecil, before a crowded audience of representatives and friends of the company. The chair was taken by Sir Hugh Gilzean Reid, who was introduced as a Dayton visitor by the Vice-President, Mr. Robert Patterson. The lecture was a 1905 edition of that given by the President, Mr. John H. Patterson, in London in 1902, and demonstrated the progress that has been made by the company in improving working conditions that seemed almost perfect. The liberal policy of the company is shown by the organisation of a trip taken by 90 per cent. of the employees to the St. Louis Exhibition for a fortnight at the company's expense, a day being set apart for them in the official programme. Another example is the setting aside of about eleven acres of garden-land for boys in the neighbourhood of Dayton. The company supplies all seeds and tools, as well as instructors, and allows the boys free use of all produce, charging each boy a nominal sum of 10c. a month, so that they may feel they pay for what they have. Many prizes and diplomas are awarded for gardening and school work, and also to the employees for any suggestions they make for improvements. Four thousand of these suggestions were made last year, half of them being accepted and paid for. As might be expected, these and the many other features of a cordial relationship between capital and labour are not confined to the staff at Dayton, but are reproduced as far as possible in the branches in London, Berlin, and elsewhere. That all this practical philanthropy is profitable as well as right and proper was shown by the list, thrown on the screen, of some seventy firms in different parts of the world who have taken Dayton as a standard of "Welfare" principles. The lecture, which was beautifully illustrated with lantern-slides and cinematographic pictures, was attentively followed and frequently interrupted by applause. It concluded with a portrait of Mr. Patterson, the inscription to which was "It pays," this being in his experience the result of a scheme started on the "It's right" principle. Mr. Thomas repeated the lecture at the Wellcome Club and Institute at Dartford on Thursday evening, after delegates of the convention had been over the works of Messrs. Purroughs Wellcome & Co.

INCORPORATED.—The Dodge & Olcott Co., of New York City, has been incorporated with a capital of \$700,000. Mr. George M. Olcott, president, Mr. Francis E. Dodge and Mr. Francis H. Sloan, vice-presidents, are named as directors. They composed the former firm of Dodge & Olcott. The other officers of the company are Mr. Christian Beilstein, secretary; Mr. James H. Horn, manager of the New York warehouse; Mr. Emil Martens, treasurer; and Mr. Charles A. Hall, manager of the Bayonne factory. All these gentlemen have been long in the service of the firm and have become stockholders in the new company. Robert Bach founded the business in 1798. It became Robert Bach & Co. in 1801, Bach & Bradish in 1821, and Dodge, Cumming & Co. in 1840. In 1850 the firm name was changed to Dodge & Olcott, in 1859 to Dodge, Colvill & Olcott, and in 1861 to Dodge & Olcott.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

AN evening meeting was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on January 18, Mr. D. B. Dott (Chairman of the North British Executive) presiding. There was a good attendance of members and students. The Chairman, in calling upon Mr. G. F. Merson, Kilmarnock, to read his papers, congratulated him on his return to Scotland, and on his appointment as one of the British Pharmacopœia referees.

STRONG SOLUTION OF LEAD SUBACETATE.

By George F. Merson, F.C.S.

After reviewing statements made by various workers on this preparation, the author detailed experiments by himself with the view to shortening the time taken to produce a solution of full strength. He finds from 100-c.c. quantities of finished solution that by rubbing the salts to fine powder and mixing in a mortar with 2 or 3 c.c. of distilled water to form a smooth cream, allowing to stand for a few minutes with occasional stirring, then transferring to a bottle and shaking from time to time, the full B.P. strength of the solution is obtained in about an hour. It is advisable to let the mixture stand in the mortar for some time before transferring to the bottle, so that the "cake" which forms at first may be thoroughly broken up and powdered, thus allowing the solvent free access to the mixed solids. He prefers the following gravimetric to the official volumetric process of estimation:

To 50 c.c. of distilled water add 5 c.c. of dilute sulphuric acid, and heat in a small flask to about 90° C., then add 1 c.c. of the lead-subacetate solution from a pipette. Counterpoise two small filters (as in opium-assay) and moisten them with warm water. Carefully decant the contents of the flask, portion by portion, upon the filters, well rinsing the flask with water. Wash the precipitate with warm water till free from acid, dry in a water-oven, and weigh.

A number of commercial samples of the solution gave varying results both in sp. gr. and in lead-sulphate content. Samples of litharge from various wholesale sources were examined, and several, when used in the official preparation, failed to produce a solution coming up to the official sp. gr. Moderate traces of red-lead and other impurities existed in these, indicating that they were not strictly official.

SOLUTION OF AMMONIUM ACETATE.

By George F. Merson, F.C.S.

This paper dealt mainly with the methods of testing the neutrality of the solution. The author finds the J. R. Hill method of making the solution perfectly satisfactory for wholesale houses, where there is little difficulty in testing both acid and carbonate; but the B.P. method is better for retailers provided they have an easy testing method. The Proctor method he finds most suitable, viz.:

In making the solution by the official method to add the final quantity of acetic acid by small portions, till a drop of the solution taken up with the stirring-rod and let fall upon a drop of neutral solution of acetate of lead causes no white precipitate. It is most convenient for this test to have some black surface, spotted with drops of the lead solution, so that repeated trials may be conveniently made while the process proceeds; the diminution in the density of the precipitate indicates the approach to neutrality, and when it becomes very faint shows the propriety of adding the acetic acid with caution. It is important that the lead solution be neutral.

The author said that a solution finished off as neutral by this method effervesces quite briskly on the addition of a little potassium bicarbonate. It occurred to him that by using a fragment of the latter salt in contact with a drop of the solution of ammonium, on a dark glass plate, a delicate means would be available for detecting even minute excess of free carbonate in the solution. Experiments in this direction were most satisfactory, and from observation and considerable experience of the test he was confident that it will be found reliable and expeditious in the hands of those who prepare the solution, especially of 1 to 7 strength. For B.P. requirements, using potassium bicarbonate as

an indicator, a drop of the solution on a dark surface should show only a faint disengagement of gas when a fragment of the salt is crumbed over the surface, showing slight acidity.

Supplementary to the foregoing a simple and reliable method of estimating the strength of a solution of acetate of ammonium or of citrate of ammonium is as follows :

A suitable small volume of solution to be estimated is placed in a glass flask of about 200 c.c. capacity, with 100 c.c. of distilled water and a little litmus solution. In a small glass flask of 25 c.c. capacity, 9 c.c. of normal sulphuric acid with litmus solution is placed, while the nozzle of a vertical condenser, suitably supported, passes down the neck till nearly touching the surface of the acid. A collar of absorbent cotton-wool is arranged inside the neck of the flask and moderately closely packed round the glass tube of the condenser. Upon this wool is carefully dropped a further 1 c.c. of normal sulphuric acid, making 10 c.c. in all. To the flask containing the acetate or citrate solution is now added 20 c.c. of normal sodium hydrate, and the flask is connected up by a bent glass tube with the top of the condenser. Heat is applied to gentle ebullition, gradually increased to brisk boiling, until a drop of the distillate gives no reaction with red litmus-paper. The excess of normal sulphuric acid in the receiver is now titrated back with normal sodium, and the result expressed either as NH_3 , or as ammonium carbonate in the original solution. The contents of the boiling flask may now also be titrated with normal sulphuric acid. The difference between 20 c.c. of normal sodium hydrate originally added and the number of c.c. found will represent the amount of acetic acid or citric acid which has been set free from the ammonia and has combined with the alkali.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Cowie described Proctor's method for the estimation of ammonium citrate and ammonium acetate as an excellent one, and said these preparations were very difficult to estimate accurately. Mr. Merson's ammonium-acetate test ought to be of great value because there is no satisfaction in the B.P. test whatever. He spoke from experience, and those who made the solution invariably fell into the mistake of getting a result too acid. Proctor's test required an acid solution, but it was a great advance on the B.P. His experience of the subacetate-of-lead solution was that it was better than the neutral lead-acetate solution.

Mr. McDiarmid said Squire's method was quite as serviceable as the official one for making lead-subacetate solution, but he had never made observations as to the time required. The salt had a tendency to cling, and Squire's process saved messing a lot of pans with the very objectionable lead salts, as in the official boiling-process. He asked Mr. Merson if he had found the B.P. figures correct in the percentage of lead sulphate. The 1885 Pharmacopœia gave 24 per cent. of lead subacetate, but he found that a liquor of the official density contained at least 27 per cent., and one with a density 1.285 contained 28 per cent. Dr. Power stated that the density of the official liquor should be 1.277, and require 19 instead of 17 c.c. of decinormal sulphuric acid for precipitation.

Mr. Boa had not much sympathy with those who found fault with the pharmacopœial process for making solution of ammonium acetate. It had been said it was troublesome, but he had never found it so himself. No doubt Mr. Merson's test is a natty expedient for finding neutrality. He noticed Mr. Merson said he had tested samples of concentrated ammonium-acetate solution. He was surprised at this time of day to find such things exist, because to make concentrated solution and dilute it with water made the flattest solution that could be prepared. The Pharmacopœia ammonium-acetate solution was full of CO_2 , and made a very pleasant drink.

Mr. J. R. Hill agreed entirely with Mr. Boa's criticism that the departure from the pharmacopœial method took away the carbonic-acid gas, which was an important constituent in the solution of ammonium acetate. It was for that reason that it occurred to him to suggest the method, to which Mr. Merson had referred, of arriving at neutrality by ascertaining the relative acidity and alkalinity of the substances employed and using them to retain the CO_2 . He was disappointed that the pharmacists of to-day, after all their education and improvement of the examination system, still found themselves unable to per-

form such an excessively simple operation as triturating ammonium carbonate and acetic acid. He quoted from a note he had received on the paper from Mr. Lunan, who wrote that the old concentrated solution was an abomination and produced nausea in patients. He (Mr. Hill) agreed with Mr. Lunan. Mr. Lothian also wrote that he did not think it was likely that exact neutrality of solution of ammonium acetate would be reached by means of indicators. In regard to the lead in solution of lead subacetate, Mr. Hill said that Mr. Lothian hinted at a very happy idea for estimating lead. Mr. Lothian said: "I find that the method, as in the case of calcium salts, of throwing it down as oxalate washing, getting free the oxalic acid in sulphuric acid, and titrating it with potassium permanganate gives excellent results." It was a very straight, quick way of estimation.

Dr. Coull disagreed with the view that solution of ammonium acetate ought to contain carbonic-acid gas.

The Chairman said that the official method in making solution of ammonium acetate might not give absolute neutrality, but it was sufficient for practical purposes, and a faintly acid solution could quite easily be obtained. Solution of lead subacetate made cold gave good results. Sometimes, he thought, its strength might be determined by estimating the alkalinity. He spoke in favour of the gravimetric process, and said that titration-processes in which complete precipitation has to be effected are always objectionable.

Mr. Merson replied to the remarks of the various speakers. Mr. Boa then communicated his paper :

LIN. POTASS. IODID. CUM SAFONE.

By Peter Boa.

In this note Mr. Boa criticised the remarks made by Mr. H. W. Jones at the Sheffield Conference, and maintained that the B.P. formula is capable of producing a preparation which is thoroughly useful in practice. Having quoted the B.P. directions, he proceeded to consider them in detail. He pointed out that a soap shaving pure and simple dissolves quickly and completely, but a shredded soap might be very different in behaviour. There is no suggestion in the direction to stir the mixture while in the water-bath, and he had seen a worker leave it undisturbed, but for an occasional look at it, for about half an hour, when, had it not been for the pellicle formed on the surface retarding evaporation, there would have been nought left but soap and glycerin. Hereabout is the source of most of the trouble of which they had heard. He had carefully noted the results obtained by about a dozen different workers who were unaware that their operations were being so observed, and he had found a loss by evaporation ranging from 15 to 38 per cent. There is no instruction to make good the loss; there is therefore ample opportunity for discrepancy. The product with 15 per cent. loss is very different in appearance and strength from that which loses 38 per cent. If the loss by evaporation is made good by the addition of water, uniform results are obtained by different workers. If the liquid is poured all at once into the mortar, the mixture becomes blubbery and stringy, and requires a lot of trituration to make it cream-like. By pouring the liquid gradually into the mortar, triturating the while, a creamy product can be easily obtained. After some further comments, including a suggestion that oil of lemon is not the nicest flavouring (oil of cajuput is better), Mr. Boa submitted the following directions, which in ordinary practice he has found satisfactory :

Mix the soap, distilled water, and glycerin in a porcelain dish; weigh the dish and contents, and note the weight; heat on a water-bath, with occasional stirring, till the soap is dissolved; make up with hot distilled water to the weight noted; pour the liquid gradually into a mortar in which is the iodide of potassium reduced to powder, mixing briskly by trituration during the addition of the liquid; continue trituration until a white and creamy product is obtained; set aside in the mortar till cold; then add the oil and mix thoroughly by trituration.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. Hill quoted the comments made by Mr. Duncan, Mr. Lunan, Mr. Lothian, and Mr. Gilmour. Mr. Duncan's experience was that the loss by evaporation in making small quantities was greatest. He found that a good deal depended on the shallowness of the pan. He made the liniment without heat

as follows: Powder the potassium iodide, mix with the curd soap in powder, triturate with the glycerin and water, adding the oil at the end. A pound of liniment could be thus made in a couple of minutes. Mr. Hill showed a sample of liniment he had made according to this prescription, and said it worked well; but an even more expeditious plan was to dissolve the potassium iodide in the water and glycerin, place the powdered curd soap in a mortar, and triturate with the potassium-iodide solution.

Dr. Coull asked if allowance was made for the smaller percentage of water in the powdered soap.

Mr. Hill said Mr. Duncan did not say, but some allowance would be required.

Mr. McEwan said Mr. Duncan had advised him to use an equivalent quantity of powdered curd soap. He had allowed for 30 per cent. of water.

Mr. Hill thought 30 per cent. was rather high; 10 or 15 per cent. would be nearer.

Mr. Henry said from what was said at the Conference it seemed there is a large demand for the liniment in England and Ireland, and he did not see why it should not be in Scotland.

Mr. Cowie said he did not think satisfaction could be got from this preparation until a uniform soap was used and the preparation made up to uniform weight.

The Chairman wound up the discussion, and Mr. Boa replied.

Mr. Hill then read Mr. Duncan's paper.

FERROUS AND FERRIC ARSENATES.

By William Duncan, F.C.S.

Dealing in the first instance with ferrous arsenate, the author gave a summary of the literature on the subject, which mainly deals with the making of the salt. He said the greater difficulty is how to keep it when made, and described experiments made with a view to find out the cause of instability. The salt is white when precipitated, but rapidly darkens. The indications of change to the ferric condition were found to be slight, but after prolonged study the author felt justified in saying that his experiments showed that the deterioration of ferrous arsenate is due to the combined action of moisture, air, and heat, ferric arsenate and oxide being the final products of the change. Continuing his experiments with ferric arsenate, he got from these some light on the decomposition of ferrous arsenate. It is probable that the combined action referred to causes a partial change into ferrous-ferric arsenate and ferric arsenate, ferrous-ferric arsenate further undergoing hydrolysis into ferrous hydroxide and ferric arsenate, the hydroxide finally passing into ferric oxide. The author next dealt with the past twenty years' literature respecting the quantitative test for ferrous arsenate, and suggested that if a salt of iron and arsenic is a Pharmacopœia necessity, a more stable one, such as ferric arsenate, in a convenient form is desirable. He has prepared a ferrous ammonium arsenate, but has not yet determined its keeping-properties.

The Chairman said it was a question whether it was worth while retaining substances like this in the Pharmacopœia at all.

Mr. Henry asked if Mr. Duncan had made any experiment as to the therapeutic value of ferric arsenate.

Mr. Hill replied that the therapeutic value of arsenious and arsenic compounds had been completely investigated. It was the same in kind, but the arsenious salts were twice as active as the arsenic. On that account he had suggested the deletion of ferrous arsenate and, when arsenic was required, to prescribe arsenious oxide.

Mr. Boa said his experience was that this salt is in very frequent demand.

Mr. Merson, Mr. Cowie, and Mr. Currie also spoke, and votes of thanks were given to the authors of the papers.

THE KESHANJAN DIARY FOR 1905, which is published by Kaviraj Nagendra Nath Sen, the Ayurvedic Pharmacy, Lower Chitpur Road, Calcutta, is a quaintly worded volume of 400 pages. The right-hand pages are left blank for diary-purposes, while the left-hand pages are given over to panegyrics of the various specialities which emanate from the Ayurvedic Pharmacy. Much medical information is included.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

SACCHARIN SUITS.

IN the Chancery Division on Tuesday, January 17, Mr. Justice Farwell had before him the case of the Saccharin Corporation *v.* Hay, which came up on a motion for judgment. Counsel for the plaintiffs stated that the motion was made in default of defence. The action arose out of an alleged infringement of the plaintiffs' patent. The defendant, John Hay, who resided in Brixton, London, did appear, and got an extension of time for delivering his defence, but that time came to an end, and no defence had been delivered. A letter had been received from defendant's solicitors stating that he had now gone abroad, and did not intend to defend. His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiffs.

IN the Chancery Division on Friday, January 13, before Mr. Justice Joyce, Mr. Jordan, on behalf of the defendants in the case of the Saccharin Corporation, Ltd., *v.* the Alliance Chemical Co., applied that the plaintiffs might be ordered to give a further and better statement of the nature of their claim and further particulars of breaches. He said the plaintiffs had brought an action on five different patents relating to a chemical process. The defence was a very elaborate matter, and the position of affairs was embarrassing to the defendants. Mr. Moulton, K.C., for the plaintiffs, argued on technical grounds that there was no hardship on the defendants. Mr. Justice Joyce declined to interfere, but gave the defendants leave to appeal from his decision.

IN the Chancery Division on Friday, January 13, Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady had before him an action brought by the Saccharin Corporation, Ltd., to restrain an alleged infringement by the defendant, Frederick Hermann Boehme, of their patents for the manufacture of saccharin. Mr. Fletcher Moulton, K.C., Mr. Cripps, K.C., and Mr. Graham appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Martin O'Conner for the defendant. Mr. Moulton, in opening, stated that an interim injunction had already been granted, and the case now came on for trial. Defendant at one time was in the employ of a company which sold saccharin and was stopped by the plaintiffs. After he left the company, the defendant commenced what was really a very serious thing for the patentees of chemicals—viz., a small trade by himself—but had no place of business except a public-house, where he was in the habit of receiving his letters, and from which he dated his answers. Saccharin, counsel continued, is worth from 30s. to 40s. per lb., and can therefore be easily dealt with in small packets and conveyed by means of letters to persons who, the defendant knew, would be likely to buy it. The saccharin which defendant sold was got from abroad, and when this came to the knowledge of plaintiffs they brought this action, alleging a number of sales. Defendant admitted the sales, and did not challenge that plaintiffs were the owners of the patents. All he said was that he had not infringed. It was therefore only necessary for the plaintiffs to prove that the saccharin sold by the defendant had infringed their process. Dr. F. W. Passmore then stated in evidence that the 550 saccharin, which was the saccharin in question in this case, cannot be made without using some of plaintiffs' patents. Cross-examined, witness said that so far as he knew there is no means of manufacturing saccharin except by the patents held by the plaintiffs, and at the conclusion of his evidence counsel for the defendant said he would carry the case no further. His Lordship thereupon gave judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs.

[It is important to note that the defendant in this case was not Mr. Frederick Boehm, of Jewin Street, E.C., but quite a different person with whom Mr. Boehm has no connection.—*Ed. C. & D.*]

"SHAMROCK" TRADE-MARK.

IN the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, Dublin, on January 13, before the Master of the Rolls, Mr. Alex. Finlay, soap-manufacturer, Belfast, applied for an injunction against the "Shamrock" Co., Belfast, to restrain Mr. McClelland (who forms the company) from using the word "Shamrock" in connection with washing-powder,

soap, or starch, and thereby infringing plaintiff's trade-mark.

The defence was that there had been no attempt to infringe the plaintiff's trade-mark, that there was no reasonable probability of anyone being deceived, and that the washing-powder was a different article from the extract of soap manufactured by the plaintiff.

The Master of the Rolls gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff. The defendant (McClelland), who seemed to constitute the company, had been an engineer with Messrs. Harland & Wolff's when he entered into competition with the plaintiff, and in his Lordship's opinion the defendant had no right to use the name of "Shamrock." He had taken a trade-mark that did not belong to him, and he must take the consequences. His Lordship then granted the injunction as sought.

THE ULSTER CHEMISTS, LTD.

IN the Chancery Division of the High Court, Dublin, on January 17, before the Master of the Rolls, further proceedings in the matter of the liquidation of the Ulster Chemists, Ltd., came before the Court (see *C. & D.*, December 24, 1904, p. 1012).

Mr. Chambers, K.C., applied on behalf of one of the defendants in this pending action—Mr. Samuel Gibson, wholesale druggist, King Street, Belfast—for an order that the plaintiff should furnish further particulars of the unfair and exorbitant prices alleged in the statement of claim. The action is brought by Mr. Hugh Smylie, liquidator of the company, against the defendant, Mr. Gibson, and also against Mr. Thomas Needham, chemist, Huddersfield, and the statement of claim dealt with various matters, including shares which are said to have been improperly allotted to the defendants. It is alleged that Mr. Gibson, as managing director of the company, traded with himself as Samuel Gibson, of King Street, and supplied goods at unfair and exorbitant prices. In his defence Mr. Gibson states that the prices charged to the company were the ordinary trade-prices, except in cases where an exceptionally low price was charged, and that he actually sold some of the articles at a loss.

Mr. Matheson, K.C., appeared for the liquidator, and said they had delivered particulars, and the only question was whether these particulars were sufficient.

Mr. Chambers said that no particulars of fraud were given. They were entitled to know distinctly and definitely the issues upon which they were brought into court.

Mr. Matheson said the defendant had got particulars of every one of the items that were challenged as being sold at an exorbitant price.

The Master of the Rolls read out one page of the list of particulars furnished, and, after hearing counsel on both sides, said it seemed rather unfair to frame charges of fraud in such a way as would take a lifetime to investigate. It seemed to him from a glance into the particulars that the difficulty was, that there were too many particulars furnished. He was asked to make an order for particulars not only of the goods in respect of which this overcharge was alleged, but of the prices actually charged, as compared with the market-prices of the day. As to market-prices of the day, his Lordship thought that a wholesale merchant had a better opportunity, at any rate he had the same opportunity as the plaintiff had, to prove what the price was. In these particulars there were a great many small items ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to 1 oz. and pennyworths' of stuff, but these things could not be the basis of a charge of fraud. The case must come to a trial, but his Lordship would take care when the case went into chambers that the defendant should have a reasonable time—not less than two or three months—to make his case in answer. He would make "no rule" upon the motion, and the costs would be reserved.

County Court Case.

PACKING ARSENIC FOR EXPORT.

IN the City of London Court on January 13, Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., had before him the action brought by Mr. Henry Base, trustee under a deed of assignment of William Reading, Stratford, against Messrs. W. & S. Bowditch, 134 Fenchurch Street, for 6*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*, expenses incurred

in sending a parcel of arsenic to Australia. The evidence showed that Mr. Reading was employed by defendants to pack a quantity of arsenic in twenty tins, but it was so badly done that the ship-agents on this side required the defendants to put the tins right before they were taken on board. When the ship arrived in Australia the authorities there found the tins again in a bad condition, and defendants were threatened with proceedings. They had to pay 70*l.*, and Mr. Bowditch, one of the defendants, thought they ought to have counterclaimed for that. The Judge gave a verdict for defendants.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

THE SALE OF VERMIN-KILLERS.

MR. C. SKIDMORE, the Stipendiary Magistrate for Bradford, gave judgment, at the Bradford City Police Court on Monday, January 16, in the case of Leggett v. Dutton, the hearing of which was reported in the *C. & D.*, January 7. Mr. Clifford Dunn appeared for the complainant (Mr. W. J. Leggett, Liverpool, Secretary of the Patent-medicine Vendors and Drug-stores' Association), and Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, barrister-at-law (instructed by Messrs. Neve, Beck & Kirby), represented the defendant, Mr. Herbert G. Dutton, chemist, Bradford.

Mr. Skidmore said this was a summons under Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868. It charged the defendant that he did "unlawfully sell a certain poison—to wit, veratrine—being a poison named in the first part of Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, to Margaret McCann, who was then a person unknown to you, the said Margaret McCann not then being introduced to you by a person known to you." After reading the words of Section 17, and reciting the poisons which come within Part 1 of the Schedule, Mr. Skidmore went on to say that it was proved that Margaret McCann purchased from the defendant, she being a person unknown to and not introduced to the defendant by some person known to him, a box of Rankin's ointment, containing veratrine, which is a poisonous vegetable alkaloid in Part 1 of Schedule A of the Act of 1868, and it was further proved that veratrine is a very dangerous poison. Mr. Glyn-Jones, for the defendant, had submitted that the summons was bad, it not being proved that the defendant had sold veratrine, but that he had sold Rankin's ointment which contained veratrine, and that the summons, to cover that case, should have been worded "Veratrine, being included in the term 'poisonous vegetable alkaloids and their salts.'" He (the Stipendiary Magistrate) held that the information of the summons was sufficient and disclosed the offence. Mr. Glyn-Jones then, in a most able defence, submitted that Rankin's ointment, containing veratrine, should be in Schedule A, Part 2, and therefore it was not necessary to know the purchaser or to have the purchaser introduced by some person known to the seller. It was conceded, on behalf of the prosecutor, that if this came within Part 2 of Schedule A, he had no case. Mr. Skidmore did not think it necessary to go in detail into Mr. Glyn-Jones's ingenious argument. The question of law appeared to him to be in a nutshell, and the Magistrate proceeded to show how the matter was affected by Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act and by the additions to Schedule A made by the Privy Council at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society. Section 2, the terms of which he read, stated that the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain might from time to time by resolution declare that any article named by such resolution ought to be deemed a poison within the meaning of the Act, and thereupon the Society should submit the same for the approval of the Privy Council, and, the approval of the Privy Council being given, the resolution should take effect upon being advertised in a manner prescribed. After reading the resolution of December 1, 1869, making additions to the Schedule, the Stipendiary Magistrate said by that resolution the Society declared these things to be poisons to be added to Schedule A, but there was no authority, so far as he could see, for putting them into any particular part of the Schedule except in regard to the last four articles which he had read, which were to be placed in Part 1. There was this difference between the articles mentioned in Part 1 of the Schedule and those added by the resolution—that the articles originally in the Schedule were described as specific articles, whereas the articles added by resolution to Part 1 of the

Schedule were described as preparations of these articles. There could be no objection to the Society making these additions, because they had got lawful authority to do it, and there could be no objection to their placing some of them, as they did, in the first part of the Schedule, but they did not declare, nor had they the power to declare, that the other articles should necessarily be placed in Part 2, which was Mr. Glyn-Jones's argument. The resolution did not state that any of the poisons named by the Pharmaceutical Society should be placed in Part 2 of Schedule A, but only that certain poisons specified were to be put in Part 1. So the Act of Parliament stood, with these additions, but giving no power to take out from the list those poisons already contained in it. Mr. Glyn-Jones had pointed out that in 1870 an Irish Act of Parliament was passed that placed in Part 2 of Schedule A such articles containing poison as Rankin's ointment, but the Legislature had not conferred the like power in England, and he thought that in law the prosecution had made out their case, and therefore convicted in the penalty of 2*l.*, and 1*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* costs, with the alternative of seven days' imprisonment.

Mr. Glyn-Jones said that his Worship would remember that on the last occasion he had made some remarks on the question of costs in reference to this prosecution. His Worship had also said that he would hear him on the question of costs. This prosecution was brought by a certain body in such circumstances that he asked the Court to say that they were entitled to no costs whatever. The Association had issued a circular to the chemists of the country stating that unless they joined that Association they would take proceedings against them, but if they joined that Association they would not take proceedings.

Mr. Dunn : There is no proof of it. The circular has not been proved in this case.

Mr. Glyn-Jones added that this Association said that the Pharmaceutical Society had attacked unqualified chemists, and they said in as many words that they were now going to retaliate, but that if chemists would join their Association, and thus show that they were in sympathy with them, they would not take proceedings against them, but would leave them to the Pharmaceutical Society. It was quite clear that in a case where a Society was acting as an administrator of an Act it was fully entitled to costs, but he submitted that this was simply a case of a society taking proceedings for its own ends and purposes. The fact was that the article which was the subject of the prosecution had been sold for thirty years without the slightest suggestion that there was any danger in it, or that any accident had happened from the selling of it. His Worship would see that it was a matter of doubt now. Nothing that had transpired in the course of the proceedings had justified the attack made upon the defendant and his co-defendants for their alleged carelessness. If there had been any mistake the defendants had been led into it by the act of the Privy Council, or, rather, by the view which they took, according to his Worship's opinion, of the authority of the Privy Council and the Pharmaceutical Society. He simply wanted to point out that this was not a prosecution which had been brought in the interests of the public, and that for that reason the prosecution were not entitled to their costs in this case.

Mr. Dunn : He says nothing about attacks on me before.

The Stipendiary Magistrate : Never mind about attacks. People are always making attacks. I do not want to hear you, Mr. Dunn.

Mr. Dunn : Well, this Society has prosecuted a man —

Mr. Glyn-Jones : Excuse me, we are not a society at all.

Mr. Dunn : This Society has prosecuted a man for selling Rankin's ointment.

The Stipendiary Magistrate : I will not trouble you about these questions. I am pleased to see you, but I do not want to hear you. (Laughter.)

Mr. Dunn said he just wanted to say that he was very much disappointed with the costs that were to be allowed. He should think that if ever there was a case for a full penalty this was a case of that sort, because they did not know what might have happened in Bradford by reason of these sales of poison.

The Stipendiary Magistrate : That is my judgment. I have refrained from allowing any advocates' fees. I think the justice of the case is met by allowing simple costs, and I have asked the Clerk to make them out.

Mr. Dunn : Do you allow nothing for the analyst?

The Stipendiary Magistrate : I allow nothing more than I have done. They have been made out by the Clerk, and these are the costs that I allow.

Mr. Glyn-Jones : Your Worship will be prepared to state a case?

The Stipendiary Magistrate : If you will apply to me within seven days I will consider it.

Mr. Glyn-Jones : I presume the notice will be served upon yourself only?

The Stipendiary Magistrate : You may take your own course. It is a question of law, and I have determined it myself as a question of law.

Mr. Glyn-Jones : It is an important point of law, as you have said yourself, and we shall take it to the High Court. Therefore I ask you not to take the other cases.

The Stipendiary Magistrate : These should be adjourned. Is there any objection to their being adjourned?

Mr. Dunn : It is no use my making any objection. You will not listen to me.

Ultimately it was arranged that the other cases, five in number, should be adjourned *sine die*.

Medicine-stamps Act.

ALLEGED MUTILATION OF STAMPS.

At Eccles, on January 12, Edward Boden, 358 Worsley Road, Winton, proprietor of a patent medicine, was brought up under a warrant on a charge of fraud on the Inland Revenue. Mr. Simpson, of the Solicitor's Department, Somerset House, stated that the defendant had dealings with Messrs. James Woolley, Sons & Co., Manchester, to whom he had supplied a dutiable medicine. He had cut the Government stamp in two and had made one stamp serve for two bottles. This was discovered by Messrs. Woolley, who communicated with the authorities. Handing up bottles to the Magistrates for their inspection, Mr. Simpson added, "There is no doubt as to the fraud." Inspector Howarth proved the arrest of the defendant, who said, "I am short of money; I only used a few of the stamps, and only supplied Messrs. Woolley with them." Mr. Simpson then asked for a remand, in order that witnesses might be summoned for the prosecution. Mr. F. W. Ogden, who appeared for Mr. Boden, did not object to the remand, but asked that bail might be allowed. The Bench assented to the application, the defendant to enter into his own recognisances of 50*l.* and to find two sureties of 25*l.* each. The Magistrates afterwards accepted one surety of 50*l.*, and the defendant was remanded for a week.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

SPIRIT OF NITROUS ETHER.

At Deal, Kent, on January 12, Mr. William H. Humfrey, chemist and druggist, Deal, was summoned for selling spirit of nitrous ether which the public analyst had certified to consist of ethyl nitrite 1.36 part, and rectified spirit 98.64 parts, showing a deficiency in the former constituent. The Mayor, at the outset, after hearing evidence of the purchase, suggested that the deficiency might be accounted for by the samples being kept for sixteen days before the analysis was made, and it transpired that this was the only article bought from defendant which was not right.

For the defence Dr. Hardman said he had given notice that the case would be defended on the ground that the article purchased was sold just as it was received from the wholesale firm. The drug was ordered by the defendant twenty-eight days before the sale, and the sample was taken from a new bottle, which had a ground-glass stopper, tied over with parchment, and which had been properly kept in a dark, dry, cool room in an inverted position, in order to give the volatile spirit no chance of escaping. Had the sample been taken from a bottle on the shelves in the shop, where it might have been opened once or twice a day, it might be decided that due and sufficient care had not been taken; but it was impossible to imagine a case where greater care could have been taken, and where the deficiency, if any, could be more clearly traced to the manufacturer or person through whom the drug was supplied. If the Bench decided that the invoice was a warranty, probably his client had a remedy against the wholesale firm, and could recover from them the expense he had been put to, but he was bound

to bring forward another defence—that this sample might have been perfectly good and according to the B.P. when sold, but from its highly volatile nature might have lost something by evaporation each time the bottle was opened—a loss which Mr. Otto Hehner placed at 20 per cent. on each occasion. It was possible that the evaporation took place when the drug was sold, when it was divided, and afterwards through the cork. There was no evidence as to the condition in which the sample was kept after being left with the analyst, and if the certificate had been sent in a reasonable time no one could have complained. Dr. Hardman then referred to the recent abortive prosecution at Tonbridge, and asked, "Was this certificate, dated December 7, evidence that on November 21 the sample bought at the shop was the same as it was stated in the certificate to be?" He said distinctly, "No."

The Clerk: Surely the analyst should state on which day the analysis was made? The certificate does not do that; it is simply the date of the signature of the analyst.

Mr. Humfrey stated that the bottle was labelled "Spt. aether. nit., B.P., 8 oz.," in accordance with the order and the invoice. Ordering as he did, he had no reason to suppose the drug to be otherwise than according to the B.P. He sold it exactly as he received it. He paid a fair price for it to Messrs. Horner & Sons.

One of the Magistrates suggested that the police should use glass-stoppered bottles in future when taking samples of volatile drugs.

After consulting *in camera*, the Bench intimated that there was not a particle of evidence against Mr. Humfrey, and it was for the prosecution to find out if there was against anyone else. They had therefore decided to dismiss the case, with costs. It was added that the decision was on the ground of the warranty.

At Fairford, Wilts, on January 10, Mr. Thomas Powell, chemist and druggist, Fairford, was summoned for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was deficient in active principles to the extent of 40 per cent. Mr. Powell having explained to the Magistrates how prone this article is to decomposition, they intimated that they considered it important that the public should have their drugs pure, and imposed a fine of 3*l.*, including costs.

LAUDANUM.

At the Nottingham Summons Court on January 13, before Alderman J. Billyeald (in the chair) and Mr. W. Bridgett, a representative of Steele, Mardock & Co., Ltd., 70 Carlton Road, was charged with selling laudanum certified to be deficient in alcohol to the extent of 50 per cent. After hearing the evidence the Magistrates dismissed the case on payment of costs.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re FRANCIS HENRY BLOMFIELD, 20 Pier Road, Erith, and 122 Bexley Road, Northumberland Heath, Belvedere, Chemist and Druggist.—Debtor again appeared at the Rochester Bankruptcy Court, on January 16, for public examination. He was questioned as to the furniture, which has been claimed on affidavit by the debtor's wife. Debtor said he would be quite willing to produce the vouchers to the trustee in respect of the articles which it was stated had been purchased by the wife out of her own moneys. Upon this understanding the examination was closed.

Re TEMPLAR MALINS, Cardiff, Chemist and Druggist.—A matter in the bankruptcy of this debtor again came before Judge Owen, at the Cardiff County Court, on Thursday, January 12. The Official Receiver (Mr. George David) said that at the last Court Mr. Malins applied for his discharge. He then promised to deposit with him (Mr. David) a sum sufficient to enable him to increase the dividend to the creditors to 10*s.* in the pound, and he also undertook, provided his Honour would grant him his discharge immediately, to enter into an undertaking to pay within a certain period a further sum by which the creditors would receive their full 20*s.* in the pound. Mr. Malins had already deposited with him (the Official Receiver) over 400*l.* in order to make up a dividend of 10*s.* His Honour: What further sum do you require to make up the 20*s.*? The Official Receiver said it was about 700*l.* Debtor was exceedingly anxious to pay his creditors in full, and as his income out of his business as chemist and dentist was some 450*l.* a year, he was prepared to set apart a portion of that income in favour of his creditors. His Honour: Then if he consents to judgment being entered against him for that money, you wish me to

grant him his immediate discharge? The Official Receiver: Yes, but Mr. Malins wanted to make the payment of the balance a voluntary matter, rather than compulsory. He had an expensive family to maintain, and to a very great extent his earnings depended upon his own personality, and if at any time he became ill, it might become a serious matter with him if he had to provide a specific amount by a certain date. His Honour: But there would be no difficulty, in that case, in his applying to the Court. Mr. Pocock (who represented the debtor) said what his client suggested was that he should pay 100*l.* a year out of his income until the full 20*s.* in the pound had been realised. His Honour: That would extend over six years, and would cause a difficulty. The Official Receiver: Perhaps my friend would make it 120*l.* a year. His Honour: Yes, I cannot make it less than that. Mr. Pocock consented. His Honour: Then on the debtor consenting to judgment being entered against him for the payment of the balance by instalments of 120*l.* a year, so as to clear off his indebtedness within six years, I grant him his immediate discharge.

Re JOHN F. SAUNDERS, late of 2 Station Parade, Winchmore Hill, formerly of 125 St. John's Hill, Wandsworth, Chemist and Druggist.—The public examination of this debtor was resumed at the Edmonton Bankruptcy Court on January 16. He was questioned by the Official Receiver with reference to the transaction with Mr. Stone, a money-lender, by whom he was sued for a debt which the bankrupt said was contracted by an assistant named Barratt, who used his (Saunders's) name for the purpose of raising a loan. Continuing, he said that in February, 1901, he acquired a business at St. John's Hill, Wandsworth, having at the time a capital of 400*l.*, 300*l.* of which he had saved, the balance of 100*l.* having been given to him by his father. The Official Receiver expressed surprise that he had saved so much money, as the salaries paid to assistants in the chemists' trade were not high. The debtor replied that he was in India for a time, where he received 15*l.* a month. In 1904 he sold the business at St. John's Hill for 500*l.* to Mr. Lloyd, and after paying his debts had about 200*l.* left. Afterwards he purchased the business at Station Parade, Winchmore Hill, for which he gave 300*l.*, borrowing 100*l.* He was disappointed with the business, the takings amounting to only 8*l.* or 10*l.* a week. It was a cutting trade. He attributed his position to the result of an action brought against him by Messrs. Idris & Co., Ltd., the petitioning creditors, and bad trade. Questioned with respect to this action, he said that at the time he sold his business at St. John's Hill he had 370 syphons in circulation among his customers, which were the property of Messrs. Idris. His successor promised to take over the liability in regard to them, but when Messrs. Idris came upon him he refused to do so. Messrs. Idris obtained judgment against him (debtor), the amount, with costs, running up to 79*l.* 14*s.* Since then the syphons had been collected and returned to Messrs. Idris, and he considered that they ought now to come into his estate as an asset. The Registrar said if there were anything in what the debtor said the syphons ought to belong to the estate. The Official Receiver said that was the first he had heard of the matter, and he must inquire into it. The examination was again adjourned for this purpose.

Deed of Arrangement.

Keck, Henry, 32 Fenchurch Street, E.C., Merchant. The following are creditors: Rolls & Son, London, 5,793*l.*; Hicks Bros., London, 4,221*l.*; S. Figgis & Co., London, 1,769*l.*; Dalton & Young, London, 2,464*l.*; E. D. & F. Man, London, 3,328*l.*; Lambert & Strong, London, 14,893*l.*; W. Binnie & Co., London, 712*l.*; Lewis & Peat, London, 4,997*l.*; Sargant & Sons, London, 5,488*l.*

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Maskew, C. B., and Hartley H., Basford, near Stoke-on-Trent, doctors of medicine, physicians, and surgeons.

Revell, H. S., and Miller, E. A., High Street, Wandsworth-S.W., and elsewhere, physicians and surgeons.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Campbell, George, Huntingdon, Great Malvern, dentists' assistant.

MacMunn, George Irvine, Scarborough, dentist.

Roos, Joseph Emil, late Holborn Viaduct, E.C., lately carrying on trade with Ludwig Gottfried Roos as the Baden-Baden Mineral Springs Co.

Waters, James, Bileston, Suffolk, surgeon.

Company News.

ICKE & SHARP, LTD. AND REDUCED.—In the Chancery Division of the High Court on Tuesday, January 17, Mr. Justice Farwell granted a petition for the reduction of the capital of this company to the extent of 16,000*l.* by reducing the nominal value of the ordinary shares from 1*l.* to 10*s.* each.

EGYPTIAN SALT AND SODA CO., LTD.—At an extraordinary general meeting of this company, held on January 11, several alterations in the articles of association were unanimously agreed to. These modifications were for the purpose of allowing the business to be directed and managed in Egypt exclusively, to reduce the fees of the board, and to give the right to holders of bearer shares to vote by proxy.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT CO., LTD.—In accordance with the intention expressed by the chairman of this company at the last annual general meeting to pay, circumstances permitting, a larger proportion of the year's ordinary dividend in February, it was resolved, at a meeting of the board on January 12, to declare an interim dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax (against 5 per cent. last year), on the ordinary shares of the company, being 10*s.* per share.

BONE PHOSPHATE AND CHEMICAL CO., LTD.—In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on Saturday, January 14, before Mr. Justice Buckley, Mr. Ward Coldridge, on behalf of the plaintiff (Mr. Kent), moved for judgment in a debenture-holder's action. He said the company was incorporated in March, 1902, and that it subsequently issued first and second mortgage debentures. It was a condition of the debentures that if the company made default in the payment of interest for two calendar months, and notice was given calling in the principal money, the debentures became enforceable. That had happened. Mr. Justice Buckley gave the usual judgment, and directed certain inquiries.

Personalities.

THE Liverpool Directors of Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher and Webb, Ltd., beg to return sincere thanks for kind sympathy shown to them in their recent bereavement.

DR. ORMANDY (Messrs. Crosfield & Sons, Warrington) contributes to the last issue of the "Autocar" an interesting paper on the use of alcohol as a motive-power for automobiles.

MR. A. H. JONES, representative of Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Kemp, Ltd., Liverpool, has been elected Chairman of the Leeds branch of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association.

ALDERMAN T. H. IDRIS, L.C.C., was on Friday last among the speakers at the meeting in the Inns of Court Hotel, called with the object of promoting a club to meet the convenience of Welshmen resident in London.

The partnership existing between Mr. H. Wippell Gadd and Mr. Martin Priest, as analytical and consulting chemists, has been dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. Gadd will practise on his own account at 100 Fore Street, Exeter.

MR. SAMUEL SCRUTON, senior partner of Raimes & Co., wholesale druggists, York, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the City of York. Mr. Alfred Scruton, his eldest son, has been admitted to partnership in the firm.

MR. JAMES CANN, of Cann & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, Lowfield Street, Dartford, is one of the members of the Dartford Urban District Council whose period of office expires in March, and he will seek re-election. A spirited contest is anticipated.

MR. JOHN FRANCIS, who has for some years represented Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. in the South-West of England, and is well known "on the road" as a popular man, is retiring from the drug-trade, having secured an exceptional appointment in another branch of commerce.

At the meeting of the British Chamber of Commerce held at Nice on January 6, when Mr. Henniker-Heaton, M.P., was present, Mr. Marcus Spurway, Consul for Greece, was unanimously elected Vice-President. Mr. Spurway made some useful suggestions about international transport and Post-office affairs. Mr. Spurway is known to *C. & D.* readers from his connection with the perfume-distilling firm of Spurway & Cie, Cannes.

THE "Times" announces that the President of the Board of Education has appointed Mr. T. S. Dymond to an inspectorship under the Board and to act as special adviser in matters of rural education; of nature study in public elementary schools; of agricultural instruction in evening (including afternoon and Saturday) schools; and of the advancement of various forms of technical education in rural districts. Mr. Dymond is a pharmaceutical chemist and the son of the late Mr. George Dymond, who was a partner with Messrs. Southall Bros., of Birmingham, and a member of the Pharmaceutical Council. Mr. Dymond attended the School of Pharmacy in 1883, and passed the Major in that year. Subsequently he acted as an assistant to Professor Dunstan and co-operated with him in establishing the Research Laboratory and in much of his work. Mr. Dymond is the first Research Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society. He is a Past President of the Chemists' Assistants' Association. Since January 1893 he has, says the "Times," "held the appointment of chemical lecturer to the Essex Technical Instruction Committee and Essex Education Committee, and is now principal lecturer of the Agricultural and Chemical Department of the County Technical Laboratories at Chelmsford. He has also been for more than four years Secretary to the Agricultural Education Association, and has seen many varieties of good educational work in rural schools." He has written a tract on the subject for the Fabian Society.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 21, 1904.)

"CARSEL"; for mineral and aerated waters. By A. F. Willoughby, 6 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C. 267,011.

"SIMI"; for cosmetics. By the Berliner Cosmetisches Laboratorium, 58 Friedrichstrasse, Berlin. 265,638.

"ETARCOL"; for a hair lotion. By A. W. Mitchell, Victoria Hospital, Lewes. 266,777.

Devices and the words "SANCT URSULA"; for eau de Cologne. By Johann Maria Franz Farina & Co., zur Sanct Ursula, Cologne. 262,546.

"VELKA"; for a toilet soap. By J. Barrington & Sons, Ltd., 202 Great Britain Street, Dublin. 267,369.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 28, 1904.)

"ROACHEEN" ("Roach" disclaimed); for vermin-killers. By J. P. Miller, 10 St. George's Crescent, Liverpool. 267,201.

"BLACKBIRD"; for disinfectants. By H. Heydon & Co., 18 Old Paradise Street, Lambeth, London, S.E. 268,101.

"SCLERIN"; for a pharmaceutical preparation. By W. Natterer, 28 Schillerstrasse, Munich, Bavaria. 264,242.

"FENCO" and devices; for a neuralgia-cure. By C. Young, 46 Ann Street, Dundee, and J. R. Taylor, 21A Strathmartine Road, Dundee. 267,122.

"SILCA" ("Silk" disclaimed); for a powder. By Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., 14 Commercial Street, Leeds. 267,264.

"NOPUR"; for medicines. By the St. James's Trading Co., Ltd., 13 Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, London, S.W. 268,049.

"NOVARGAN"; for chemicals. By the Chemische Fabrik von Heyden Aktiengesellschaft, 57 Leipzigerstrasse, Radebeul, near Dresden, Saxony. 267,636.

"ALCOLA"; for a tablet drink-cure. By Edith L. Williams, 24 Maryland Street, Rodney Street, Liverpool. 267,686.

"GRAMOPHONE" and device of a gramophone; for chemicals. By C. Payne, 115 Dulwich Road, Herne Hill, London, S.E. 268,081.

"SOCIUS"; for thermometers. By Steinlé & Hartung, 12 Klopstocksweg, Quedlinburg-am-Harz, Germany. 267,771.

Device of violets; for perfumed soaps. By Gottlieb Taussig, 215 Schönbrunner Strasse, Vienna. 265,720.

"KA-RŪ"; for perfumes. By Barnett & Co., 126 Bristol Street, Birmingham. 267,981.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

Clause 7 the Second

has succeeded to its throne in the Pharmacy Bill without any cosmic disturbance. Its predecessor remains, as Bismarck prophesied of the Bulgarian throne, a pleasant reminiscence. But it is not possible to part with the old formula, which at least expressed our view and declared our claim in definite language, and thus served the purpose of relieving our feelings, without a tender farewell. And this is not inconsistent with a hearty word of greeting to the new clause. Clause 7 the second is not exactly a reduction of our demand, though it may look a little like it. It is something very different from merely requiring that one qualified director shall figure on the board of any company carrying on a chemist and druggist's business. The principles of qualified control and of representative qualified proprietorship are still maintained, though perhaps not quite so aggressively. It need not be hoped that the modification of the formula is going to disarm the opposition of the drug companies and of their Parliamentary satellites. If it does, there will be cause for genuine alarm. What it may do is to secure more sympathy in quarters where our humble affairs are only occasionally glanced at, and then through an official telescope.

The Federation Officers

have my respectful sympathy. They must have hunted long and patiently over the field of pharmaceutical polemics before they found themselves driven in despair to the sterile rock of "breaking bulk" as the topic for their periodic *plébiscite*. With the best will in the world I could hardly see my way to dispute with any living being over the policy suggested by the phrase quoted. It may be wise to break bulk in one locality and unwise to do so in another. What seems inconceivable is that in any circumstances it can ever be necessary to ask Parliament to interpose in such a matter. The controversy between the Big-endians and the Little-endians waxed serious in Lilliput, but our people have whist-drives, banjo trios, concerts, suppers, and balls to think about just now, so that it may be feared (or hoped) that the Executive's latest slogan will fail to arouse the passions of the faithful.

The Chairman of Parkes' Drug-stores

has been complaining lately of illegitimate competition. Wherever that company sheds the light of its presence it is soon followed, it appears, from the speech of the chairman of the company at the recent annual meeting, by a number of competitors, some of whom he was good enough to recognise as legitimate, but some he stigmatised as illegitimate. It would be interesting to know how these are distinguished in the company code of ethics. We old-fashioned, out-of-date chemists have got into the habit of describing as illegitimate competition, by which we mean something that we consider is not quite correct, but which we cannot say is illegal, that of an unqualified capitalist posing as a chemist. But Mr. Warnford-Davis, chairman of Parkes' Drug-stores, would hardly take this view.

The Pharmaceutical Family Party

given last week by President Robinson included, it is understood, not only his Council colleagues and some of his Parliamentary friends, but also the editors of what were once known as the "opposition" journals. This is worth noting, for it may mark the abandonment of the old theory that any criticism which was not of the approved pattern was a sign

of malevolence. We are but a feeble folk at the best, and a strong pull all together is essential if anything is to be achieved in a world so indifferent, if not hostile, as the one which surrounds us.

The Board of Trade Statistics

deal with a business which, inclusive of the imports and exports of bullion, runs to well over a thousand millions sterling. The bullion figures are not the least interesting. It is curious to note how entirely detached they are from the other figures. However the excess of the value of imports over that of exports is settled, it is at once apparent, even to a novice in statistics, that it is not paid for by silver and gold. Last year we exported a trifle more bullion than we imported, and this happens occasionally, but on the average of a long series of years we retain more than five millions' worth of the precious metals annually. This and the excess of imports (amounting last year to 180 millions) are paid for, as we all know now, thanks to the drilling in economics which we have had during the past year or two, by "invisible exports." But what becomes of that five millions' worth of silver and gold. Most of it goes in jewelry, some into artificial teeth, some in photographs. In last December's returns an item of 1237 appears among the imports of "new ships." Somebody must have got a bargain. A curiosity of the figures appears by comparing with the imports and exports the officially recorded tonnages of the cargoes entered and cleared in and from the ports of the United Kingdom. It appears that we received last year nearly thirty-nine million tons of goods, worth 551 millions of pounds. We exported nearly forty-five million tons of goods, value 371 million pounds. That is to say, our incoming goods are of an average value of 14*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton, while those we send away are only worth about 8*l.* 5*s.* per ton. It is true that in the former case the freight has been reckoned, but not in regard to exports, and the latter include coal.

Medicines,

as understood by the Board of Trade and used as a definition in the Board's statistics of exports, covers, it may be presumed, the general parcels sent abroad by the wholesale druggists together with the shipments of proprietary remedies. It apparently includes also quinine, which is given separately in the monthly and annual tables, but not in the official abstracts. Assuming that the term has had a fairly constant meaning, the line offers an index of the growth of the British drug-trade with customers overseas—in the Colonies, no doubt, principally. The figures show that that trade is expanding with satisfactory rapidity—that is, if an increase of more than 60 per cent. in twenty years is sufficient to satisfy British dealers and manufacturers. The value of the exports of this class of goods has fluctuated a little from year to year, but dividing the twenty years from 1885 to 1904 inclusive into five periods of four years each, and taking the average of each quadrennium, we get the following result:

1885-8	1889-92	1893-6	1897-1900	1901-4
£813,465	£1,024,615	£1,022,472	£1,163,835	£1,374,894

The interesting feature of this analysis of the export trade in medicines is the increased rapidity of the advance of the average of the latest series of years. The increase was greater in the last five years than it was in the preceding fifteen years. The amount of British-made quinine exported last year (907,859 oz.) was valued at 53,992*l.*, this being somewhat less than in 1903, but more than in 1902.

The General Board of Opticians was constituted on January 19 at the Holborn Restaurant, W.C. Six chemists are members of the Board—Messrs. Bennett, Bunker, Cuff, Kidd, Tugwell, and Woolley.

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Editorial Comments.

Local Authorities and Drugs.

THE responsibilities of local authorities charged with the administration of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts are probably the most onerous that fall to their lot, because, on the one hand, the duties of the authorities to the public must be diligently performed, and, on the other hand, the reputation of those engaged in the sale of food and drugs has to be safeguarded against the possible endeavour of executive officers to manifest their zeal by energetic but ill-considered action. We must say that up to the present the authorities, from the Local Government Board downwards, have very frequently concentrated their efforts to securing convictions under the Acts, and this is never better exemplified than when inspectors and public analysts, like a flock of sheep, run after some leader who has "spotted" an article which is easily analysed (an essential to the analyst who gets half a guinea a sample) and as easily condemned. This probably would have been the fate of the drug-trade in respect to cod-liver oil had the prosecutions initiated by the Chelsea Borough Council "come off" in the manner anticipated by the prosecutors. What that fate means it is difficult to conjecture, but knowledge of the fact that the oils condemned were pure cod-liver oils, and brands of the highest repute, justifies the suggestion that the trade in the article would have tumbled into a state of chaos and panic. Those who have read the reports of the hearings in November and December and the final one printed in this issue, are not in the best position for realising why those interested in the defence are so indignant about the proceedings. One had to be in court to catch the spirit of the case. Mr. John C. Umney, who, as Secretary of the Drug Club (the representative body of wholesalers who undertook the defence), had to arrange for the defence, calls attention elsewhere in this issue to the trade-menace which the case exemplifies. We commend Mr. Umney's protest and suggestions to the careful consideration of manufacturers, retailers, and wholesalers as a statement of interest to each, especially as bearing on their personal influence with the Public Health Committees of local bodies.

The Chelsea cases are typical of an everyday danger, which passes under the name of "justice" unless it is met by a determined defence. It was by mere accident it was discovered, a few minutes before the case closed, that the inspector who purchased the samples of oil had put third parts thereof into bottles bought, it was alleged, from a second-hand dealer, and in one of these bottles a witness for the defence discovered "dirt" adhering to the sides. This he thought was decomposed milk. How far this, and the presence of water in the bottles, may have affected the analytical results need not be discussed; the serious and disgraceful feature is that the inspector in the witness-box volubly asserted that the bottles were "chemically clean," and had not Alderman Robinson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, been on the bench, the gravity of this initial blunder might not have been apparent to the Court. For a second point we go back to the first hearing on November 15, when the public analyst, on whose certificates the prosecutions were instituted, gave evidence. It is well known that the B.P. tests for cod-liver oil are tests of identity, and not of purity. A violet colour with sulphuric acid shows the presence of a trace of bile salts and the nitric acid of albumen. Improved processes of preparing and refined the oil to conform best with the official description reduce bile salts and albumen to an almost inappreciable

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amount—a fact which is well known and should be accessible to a chemist holding the responsible position of public analyst. In any circumstances these colour-reactions are not a measure of the purity of the oil, yet the Chelsea analyst based his certificates that the cod-liver oils were adulterated with fish-oils (even the percentages being given) upon colour-reactions and the Reichert value, stating in evidence that the colour-test is “quite sufficient to determine whether the oil is adulterated or not.” We have no desire to exaggerate the gravity of this statement, and we do not presume that it exhausts Dr. Rideal’s knowledge of cod-liver oil, but we submit as a fact that at the time these prosecutions were initiated it was known that the chemical analysis of cod-liver oil is not complete until certain constants are chemically and physically determined; further, that a certificate of adulteration which is not based on the complete analysis is an injustice to the vendor of the article. Moreover, as a matter of procedure the case dismissed by the Stipendiary at Poplar a year ago ought to have warned the public authorities that certificates based on colour-reactions alone are insufficient grounds for legal proceedings.

The most serious issue from the present cases is the apparent indifference of the prosecutors to the reputation of the vendors. Reputation is an asset in trading which counts so much that it sometimes happens that a man’s business is ruined by conviction under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. Conviction is particularly serious in the case of medicines, for customers avoid the shops of those who have been branded as sellers of bad drugs. Local authorities should therefore take special care before authorising proceedings in regard to drugs, and when they do take proceedings it is their duty to assist the Magistrates as fully as possible to come to a just verdict. This has not been done in the Chelsea cases. The Borough Council authorised the proceedings, and when it became known, at great cost to the defence, that there was a strong element of doubt as to the sufficiency of the grounds for prosecution, they declined to give the Magistrates further assistance by evidence, and did not withdraw the summonses. We do not say that a prosecution should be withdrawn on account of a vigorous defence, but we do urge that prosecutions are undertaken on slender grounds because retail vendors are rarely in a position to properly defend themselves; and the frequency with which adequate defences get public analysts’ certificates set aside justifies the creation of some independent authority in regard to drugs to whom doubtful cases might be submitted before proceedings are instituted. It cannot be right that defendants in such cases should have to bear the cost of laying before Magistrates all the ascertainable analytical factors required for their judgment. That is the duty of the prosecutors, and when they come short of that duty they ought to be made to pay in costs to the extent of their shortcomings.

Vermin-killers.

The Bradford Magistrate has decided that the Pharmaceutical Council and the Privy Council acted beyond their powers under Section 2 of the Pharmacy Act in respect to the 1869 entry on the Poisons Schedule *re* vermin-killers, in so far as a poison already in Part 1 cannot be made the subject of a resolution to put something containing it in Part 2. Therefore a vermin-killer containing veratrine is, as a poisonous vegetable alkaloid, in Part 1—according to his ruling. To this he adds the ingenious suggestion that the 1869 resolution is not sufficiently specific in that it does not add any of the poisons to Part 2 of the Schedule,

but simply declares a number of articles to be poisons, and mentions four of them as being added to Part 1. The deduction to the ordinary mind is obvious, but the decision is to be considered by the High Court, and until its judgment we stand where we were, and the practice of the past thirty years of selling Rankin’s ointment under Part 2 conditions will be continued.

The Sale of Vaseline.

At a meeting of the Council of the Metropolitan Grocers’, etc., Association last week it was reported that the Cheshbrough Manufacturing Co. are carefully considering the legal position of their preparations in the light of the new order issued by the Inland Revenue in connection with vaseline, and that they propose to have the law on this matter made quite clear, if necessary, by the highest Courts. This has reference to the fact that vaseline is the subject of letters patent, and therefore when prepared or sold as a medicine would perpetually be liable to medicine stamp-duty. As it is an entire drug it is exempt from such duty, but may only be sold by surgeons, apothecaries, chemists, and druggists, any other persons requiring to take out a medicine-vendor’s licence before they may sell it.

During the Recess.

That ubiquitous gentleman “Our Town Traveller” tells us that he was at Charing Cross station last Saturday morning bidding good-bye to a friend who travelled by the train for Dover, Ostend, and elsewhere, when he espied a well-known figure from Stratford way in portentous and vigorous confab. with a distinguished scientist whose habitation is not far from where his Majesty’s Judges are wont to congregate. The conversation was stopped for a minute when a patrician figure, once familiar in the precincts of the Custom-house but now advanced to the contemplation of another outlook to the river further west, joined the group. The triumvirate appeared not to allow the subject to drop, and soon two of them started on the journey to the Continent, while the knight who essayed the other door thoughtfully wended his way Strandwards. From this we deduce that the Chairman of the Industrial Alcohol Committee and Dr. Thorpe are paying a visit to the Continent in connection with the inquiry.

The New Zealand Fiasco.

The reports which we are able to give to-day of the deputations to the New Zealand Minister of Public Health suffice to indicate that Sir Joseph Ward has discovered that his departmental advisers have not done quite fairly by him in the patent-medicine formulae matter, and he has retreated from a position in which he ought never to have been placed. The regulations appear not to have been dictated by public policy, and they were not called for by doctors or chemists, nor have the public sought protection; but it seems that the head medical officer has had certain imported medicines analysed, and has primed the Minister with absurd ideas about things which it would be illegal for even a doctor to prescribe. This cock-and-bull story met with proper indignation from the leader of the Wellington deputation, and, if there is still time—that is, if the regulation fiasco is not buried by the time this issue reaches New Zealand—we hope someone will show Sir Joseph Ward how the list of medicines wholly refutes the ideas aforesaid. Allenburys’ pastilles and Bengers’ liquor pancreaticus, to mention only two of the many medicines in the list, are prescribed by physicians of the highest repute, and their presence refutes the explanation given on December 11. The fact is that someone has blundered, and thus caused a great deal of unnecessary disturbance of Colonial trade and its home connections. We trust Sir Joseph Ward will carry his discovery to the logical finish, and wipe out the regulations entirely. It is

apparent that his Department is in such a condition that no manufacturer who has respect for his lawful secrets would trust the Department with them, and this is the alternative suggested for disclosure on the label.

Medicine standards.

Apart from the administration and trade considerations arising from the Chelsea cod-liver oil prosecutions, discussed in an earlier note, two exceptionally important points arose during the hearing. As a rule the certificate from the Government Laboratory on the reserve sample is usually taken as decisive, but it was not so regarded in this instance, and it may be noted that it was not signed by the Principal of the Laboratory. Whether or not that fact has anything to do with the certificate not ending the present case has not transpired, but it is safe to conjecture that the absence of the Principal's signature from such certificates is a point which ought to be emphasised in any other cases that may arise. The object of referring reserve samples to the Government Laboratory is to secure an unbiassed opinion arrived at by the available resources in skill and knowledge of the Department, and this cannot be obtained without the direct cognisance of the Principal and attested by him. A second point has reference to the British Pharmacopœia. Mr. Macmorran repeated the argument which he has used before—that the Pharmacopœia description alone is the standard to judge by. This opinion is gaining ground, and it has a direct bearing upon Pharmacopœia-revision, for the "Characters and Tests" will need more careful consideration than ever.

Birth.

MITCHELL.—On January 13, at The Acacias, Vale Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, the wife of W. C. Mitchell (representative for Mr. E. S. Jackson, lozenge-manufacturer, Crediton), of a son.

Marriage.

FERRIER—NOBLE.—At St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, London, on January 17, David Ferrier, M.D., South Shields, son of Mr. D. H. Ferrier, J.P., chemist and druggist, Dundee, to Gussie, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Frederic Noble, of Chipping Ongar, Essex.

Deaths.

AINSLIE.—At Hazelbank, North Berwick, on January 5, Sibella Mary, wife of Mr. William Wood Ainslie, chemist and druggist.

ALLEN.—At Evenly Hall, Brackley, on January 12, Mr. William Allen, one of the chemical pioneers of the Tyne. Mr. Allen began, with his brother and others, many years ago, the Wallsend Chemical-works, which were carried on by the firm until the formation of the United Alkali Co., to whom they were sold. Mr. Allen was eighty-one years of age.

BETTINSON.—At Monmouth, on December 27, Mr. William Thomas Bettinson, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-six.

BOOTH.—At Southampton, on January 11, Mr. John Booth, chemist and druggist, manager of Boots' Drug-stores at 182 High Street, Southampton.

COCKSHOT.—At Manchester, on December 27, Mr. Joseph Cockshott, pharmaceutical chemist, aged seventy-nine.

CONNAH.—At 31 Rudall Crescent, Hampstead, on January 13, Amalie Alexandra Emily, wife of Mr. James Connah, B.Sc., F.C.S., F.I.C., aged thirty.

DANIEL.—At 36 Regent Street, Swindon, on January 15, Mr. Silas Daniel, pharmaceutical chemist, aged sixty. Mr.

Daniel, who was well known and highly respected in the town, was a Devonian by birth. He had been in business at Swindon for twelve years, having previously carried on a large business at Ramsgate. He leaves a widow and three children. The funeral took place on January 18 in Swindon Cemetery.

EVANS.—At the "Medical Hall," Lampeter, Cardiganshire, on January 13, Mr. Jenkin William Evans, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-three. Mr. Evans, who was a native of Llanon, was the oldest tradesman in the town, having been in business for close upon half a century. He took an active part in public affairs, and was a member of the old Local Board, and after a charter of incorporation was granted to Lampeter he was elected a member of the Town Council, filling the office of Mayor for a period of two years. He was also a director of the local gas company.

HAMILTON.—At Barrow-on-Humber, on January 11, Mr. William Hamilton, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-nine. Mr. Hamilton was discovered dead in bed, and at the inquest it was stated that death was due to heart-failure, consequent upon chronic bronchitis and other ailments.

HEALD.—At Burnham, Bucks, on January 8, Mr. Alfred John Heald, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-six. Mr. Heald was a native of Wisbech, and carried on the only chemist's business at Burnham from 1862 until his retirement in 1903. He took a deep interest in Church work, and for thirty years was organist and choir-master and for ten years warden at the parish church. On retiring from the former post the parishioners presented him with an illuminated address and a timepiece. He was also the founder of the Burnham, Hitcham, and Dorney Water-works Co. He had been in failing health for a long time, and death was due to an internal malady.

HOLLINWORTH.—On January 8, at 83 Oxford Street, Liverpool (the residence of her son), Sarah, widow of the late Mr. Joseph Hollinworth, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-seven.

KELLETT.—At Market Place, Wigan, on January 16, Alderman Richard Edward Kellett, chemist and druggist, aged fifty-two. Mr. Kellett was one of the best-known public men in the town. He was an Alderman of the Corporation, and acted as Mayor in 1901. He was also a Justice of the Peace for the borough, and Chairman of the Conservative Club.

PRATT.—At Chichester, on January 12, Sophia Elizabeth, wife of Mr. A. A. Pratt and mother of Mr. A. J. Pratt, chemist, Reigate, and of Mr. C. A. Pratt, chemist, Salt-ash, aged sixty-nine.

MOORE.—On January 14, Mr. Robert Samuel Moore, pharmaceutical chemist, Newtownstewart, Belfast. Mr. Moore was dispenser to the Belfast Poor-law Guardians, and had served as a compounder in the South African War. At the meeting of the Belfast Guardians on Tuesday, a resolution of sympathy with his relatives was passed.

MERCER.—At "Ibrox," Palmerston Road, Buckhurst Hill, on January 7, Mr. Francis Montier Mercer, of Townson & Mercer, chemical and scientific apparatus makers, Camomile Street and Bishopsgate Street, E.C., aged seventy-four. Mr. Mercer was born in the charming village of Midhurst, Sussex, and was educated at the Midhurst Grammar School. On leaving school, young Mercer was apprenticed to Mr. D. Wolverstan, chemist, Midhurst. After leaving Midhurst Mr. Mercer went to Macclesfield, where he started in business on his own account. He was laying the foundation of a good pharmaceutical connection there when his wife's health broke down, and he was advised by his doctor to remove farther south. Accordingly he went to London and joined the staff of Jackson & Townson, scientific-instrument makers, of Bishopsgate Street. Mrs. Mercer died, and after Mr. Townson's death Mr. Mercer married Mrs. Townson and assumed control of the business, the title being changed to "Townson & Mercer." Under Mr. Mercer's able direction the business grew and prospered, until at the present day it is perhaps the best-known and largest of its kind in the country. About six years ago it had grown to such an extent that separate wholesale premises were built by him in Camomile Street, the Bishopsgate Street establishment being used for retail purposes. Mr. Mercer was a masterful man, with a

decided preference for having his own way in most things, but he was withal a kind and just employer. There are many employes still at Bishopsgate Street and Camomile Street who have been in the business for twenty and thirty years. The business will be carried on under the old style by his son, Mr. C. A. Mercer, and his step-son, Mr. T. B. Townson, both of whom have had a share in the active management of affairs for some years. His business career was, however, only a portion of the strenuous life lived by Mr. Mercer. He always took the keenest and most active interest in public affairs, being for many years a representative of the Ward of Bishopsgate in the Court of Common Council. He retired from municipal work only a few months ago, consequent upon a rather serious illness in July. He rendered good service to the Corporation. Many years ago Mr. Mercer took up his residence in the High Street, Walthamstow, when that suburb was a picturesque country district. There he lived for many



THE LATE MR. MERCER.

years, and from the first took an active interest in the affairs of the parish. He was for some years a member of the old Local Board, one of the overseers of the parish, and for some time the people's churchwarden and one of the Charity Trustees. Upon the establishment of County Councils Mr. Mercer was one of the members returned to represent Walthamstow on the Essex County Council, and continued a member until he left Walthamstow for Midhurst some fifteen years ago. He was a staunch supporter of the Conservative party, and, with Mr. David Howard (of Howards & Sons, Ltd.) and the late Mr. John Copley, took an active interest in the formation of the Walthamstow Conservative Club. When he left Mr. Mercer was entertained to dinner by the Club, and in the presence of a very large company was presented with a handsome service of plate in recognition of his services to the party, and as an earnest of the high estimation in which he was held, the presentation being made by the Duke of Norfolk. While at Midhurst Mr. Mercer became a Governor of the school at which he was educated. He removed from Midhurst to Buckhurst Hill about five years ago, but apart from his connection with the City Corporation he took no active part in public affairs during the closing years of his life. His kindly and generous disposition endeared him to all classes of the community both at Walthamstow and at Midhurst, where he was as much esteemed as were his sterling qualities by business men in the City. The funeral took place on January 12 at Walthamstow Cemetery, amid many manifestations of respect. Nearly the whole of the employes of the firm attended, and there were present representatives of the Ward of Bishopsgate and members

of the Court of Common Council and of the London County Council. The Clerk of the Wheelwrights' Company (of which Mr. Mercer was a past master) was also present, and floral tributes were sent from the Court of Common Council, from the Bishopsgate Ward Club, from the parish of St. Ethelburga, Bishopsgate, and from many private friends and employes.

NICHOLSON.—At the Flat House, Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, on January 14, Mr. Alfred Nicholson, chemist and druggist, aged seventy. Mr. Nicholson, who was one of the oldest and most enterprising tradesmen of the town, had suffered from ill-health for some weeks. He had been largely associated with the history and development of the town. He was one of the first promoters of the scheme of municipal telephones, and it was for the purpose of his advocacy of the telephone project that he was returned to the Town Council; and no one regretted more than Mr. Nicholson the unexpected transfer of the municipal system to the National Co. After the telephone boom had subsided Mr. Nicholson failed to secure re-election on the Council, and did not afterwards take such a prominent part in local affairs. Mr. Nicholson was respected by all classes for his high personal character and public usefulness. He was a director of the gas company and a trustee of Murray House Schools.

WINK.—At his residence, Cleavelands, Chiswick, W., on January 17, Mr. John Adam Wink, pharmaceutical chemist (principal of Messrs. J. A. Wink & Co., chemical-manufacturers, Devonshire Square, E.C.), aged sixty-four. Mr. Wink served his apprenticeship to the drug-trade in Elgin, thereafter going as a junior to Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co., North Bridge, Edinburgh. While there he lived with his uncle, Mr. Adam, the Town Clerk of Edinburgh, a man of great ability, who adorned the highest official municipal position in Scotland, and largely owing to Mr. Adam's influence Mr. Wink developed into an exceptionally smart young man, with higher aspirations than are usual among chemists' assistants. While in Edinburgh Mr. Wink was identified with such pharmaceutical activity as the younger generation showed forty years ago, and in 1863 he passed the Major examination. Shortly thereafter he took up the representation of his firm in London, soon becoming a favourite in commercial circles, and he made hosts of friends. During his connection with Messrs. J. F. Macfarlan & Co. Mr. Wink became known as an expert in opium and its alkaloids, and he was an occasional contributor to this journal on these subjects. About twenty years ago he started business as a manufacturer of morphine, codeine, and other opium alkaloids, and as J. A. Wink & Co. built up an excellent connection in these products and in chemicals generally, his export business being particularly important. Although so closely identified with commercial and manufacturing matters, Mr. Wink never lost touch of pharmacy, and, apart from his occasional visits to Bloomsbury Square, those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance noted his keen interest in pharmaceutical chemistry. His familiar figure had been missed from 'Change during the past year, when occasional illnesses culminated in a final and hopeless affection of the larynx. The humid and warm climate of the South Coast gave him comfort for some time, but during recent months he has been confined to his house at Chiswick. An attack of pneumonia and diabetic symptoms came on towards the end, and he passed away peacefully in his sleep on Tuesday. He is survived by Mrs. Wink and a family of one daughter (married) and three sons, the youngest of whom is studying medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital. The eldest son is on the Stock Exchange, and the second one is in the Chinese and Japanese trade. Messrs. J. A. Wink & Co. announce that "the business will be carried on as hitherto."

A DISCOVERY OF NOTE.—According to a Rangoon paper, a very pure deposit of tungsten has been discovered on the banks of the Tenasserim River. Fuller particulars are not yet available. Tenasserim is one of the States of Lower Burmah, and, together with Lower Siam, forms the northern portion of the Malayan peninsula. It is possible that the above find may lead to discoveries of tin ore, for in the adjoining Siamese States tin-prospecting is rapidly going on.

Winter Session.

Association Ballad.

THE PURPOSE.

*The men, their aims, their daily irk;
Their troubles, trials, thoughts, and views
On things politic, foes that lurk
In friendly guise, but treach'rous work—
These be the burden of our Muse.*

LIV. NORTHAMPTON.

Er in search of information of good pharmaceutic quality,
Or desirous of intelligence of any useful kind,
Gaily get thee to the "Black Boy" and secure an im-
mortality

By "sitting under" Mayger; richest value you will find.
You will learn that pills are coated when they sometimes
should be powdery.

And how chemists of the present and the future are to
Ward

Like an open page of history; and how the facile Cowdery
Proposes to take measures 'gainst our apathy to guard.

You will listen to McKennell as he deals in florid eloquence,
With "Copies of Prescriptions" or an Early-closing Bill;
You will mark the level-headedness, the hardy, ripe and
mellow sense

Of Ashford (safe Vice-President) and laud him with a will.

En the borough of Northampton men are fond of aught that's
leathery,

Though some like flour and maltings, others manufacture
tiles;

But Wright, Ingle, Rolfe, and Harris deal in powders,
crystals feathery,

And, like Dennis, North and Senior dabble in prescrip-
tion-files.

These with others—Lucas, Armit, Gatehouse, Adams,
Price, and Taylor, too,

The strenuous Ashford (Councillor), strong or gentle
breezes waft

O'er the pharmaceutic ocean, and, like every British sailor,
too,

They do their best to help their ancient, overburdened
Craft.

Harrogate Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on January 13 at the Salisbury Hotel. There were present Messrs. Atkinson, Davis, Eynon, Battle, Senior, Leak, Dawson, Mitchell, Wood, Lawrence, Pattison, Payton, and Handford. A discussion took place on the question of co-operative buying, and it was decided to take steps to carry into effect a scheme for this purpose.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A MEETING was held at 73 Newman Street, W., on January 12, the President (Mr. R. E. Lownsbrough) in the chair. About twelve members attended, and one new member was elected. The President announced that the Council had decided that the records of the Association should be bound for reference-purposes, certain missing numbers having been supplied by an old member. Mr. F. C. G. Walker then read a paper on "Alchemy," illustrated with lantern-slides, which resolved itself into an account of some of the searches for the *Lapis Divinus* made by the forerunners of modern chemists from Hermes Trismegistus to Paracelsus.

Chemical Society.

At the meeting held at Burlington House on Wednesday, January 18, the papers read were by Dr. Chattaway, on "Nitrogen Haloid Derivatives of the Sulphonamides," by Mr. Law on "Electrolytic Oxidation of Aliphatic Aldehydes," by Dr. Morgan and Miss Micklethwait on some complex diazo derivatives of benzenesulphonylphenylene-diamines, by Messrs. Sheppard and Mees on "The Molecular Condition of Ferrous Potassium Oxalate in Solution," and by Mr. H. O. Jones on "The Similarities and Dissimilarities of the Asymmetric N and C Atoms." At the close of these proceedings the President called the attention of the Fellows to the fact that two extraordinary meetings will be held during this session—one on Wednesday next

at 8.30 p.m., when Dr. W. H. Perkin, jun., will deliver the Wislicenus Memorial lecture, and one on February 8, when the Council propose to submit certain alterations in the By-laws for the approval of the Fellows.

Manchester and North of England Optical Society.

A SPECIAL MEETING of this Association was held at Manchester on January 13, under the presidency of Mr. George Bennett (Stockport), to elect two representatives to serve on the General Board of Opticians which is being formed to defend the interests of opticians. The President outlined the work of the British Optical Association's meeting at which the *via media* of a General Board of Opticians was adopted. The absurdities of the clauses in the proposed Medical Bill prohibiting practice by unregistered persons (see *C. & D.*, January 14, p. 58) were pointed out, but it was agreed that in spite of the fact that the clauses do not stand the slightest chance of passing, it is necessary to have the machinery ready to oppose the Bill. Mr. Bennett mentioned that he had been nominated on the Board by the Spectacle-makers' Company, and the meeting thereupon unanimously elected Mr. I. Slater and Mr. J. C. Kidd to represent the Society. The question of the payment of the delegates' expenses to London was deferred.

North Staffs Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this association was held on January 12 at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, Mr. J. Averill (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. W. Marson, Vice-President (Stafford), Edmund Jones (Hon. Sec.), T. Bentley (Asst. Hon. Sec.), W. Oldham and B. Parker (Burslem), J. Melling (Tunstall), C. Morrison (Newcastle-under-Lyme), A. F. Bottomley (Hanley), F. Adams, R. G. Emery, W. B. Allison, and R. Hartland (Stoke-on-Trent).

HONOUR TO MR. MARSON.

In view of the fact that Mr. W. Marson has recently been created a J.P. for the town of Stafford, it was decided to celebrate the event by a social evening.

The Chairman, congratulating Mr. Marson on the honour conferred upon him, said Mr. Marson had done splendid public work for the county town. Mr. Edmund Jones, Mr. Allison, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Oldham also spoke in a similar strain.

Mr. Marson's health was then drunk in champagne, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a convivial manner.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association.

MR. J. RHODES presided at a meeting of the above Association held on January 16. On account of the severe weather there was not a very large attendance.

The Secretary read a letter in connection with the Fairchild scholarship and prize scheme. The opinion was expressed that, although it would not affect Dewsbury to any great extent, it was a very liberal scheme. It was agreed that the Secretary should write and forward the names of all the members of the Association who employed apprentices.

The Secretary of the Society of Chemist-Opticians wrote suggesting that a night might be set apart for the consideration of optics, seeing that chemists were largely interested in sight-testing and the sale of glasses. No action, however, was taken.

Mr. Walker drew attention to the decision of the Bradford Stipendiary Magistrate in the case in which local registered chemists had been summoned for selling to an unknown person a box of ointment containing veratrine. It was thought chemists ought to have been informed as to what the ointment contained.

Mr. R. Gledhill had promised to read a paper on the titles question in reply to Mr. R. Broadhead. Owing to an attack of influenza, however, he was not able to be present.

Halifax Chemists' Association.

At the annual meeting, held at the Cock Hotel, Halifax, on Tuesday evening, January 17, Mr. Clement Fielding was unanimously elected President, and Mr. Percy Swire

was appointed to succeed Mr. H. Hebden as Secretary, the latter being unable to continue in the office. Mr. J. Swire was re-elected Treasurer, and the retiring members of the Committee were also re-elected. It was decided to hold the annual dinner on February 16. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Society of Chemist-Opticians, and it was agreed to consider it fully at a future meeting. The Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society wrote to the following effect *re*

THE TEST-CASE.

It has been reported to me indirectly that the Halifax Association is not very favourable to the Society, and it seems to me to be rather a grave condition of affairs. Whether it is due to the mistaken notion that some of our Yorkshire friends have got hold of that the Council ought to take up a test-case on the question of titles I do not know, but, acting on the assumption that Mr. Broadhead's views may have something to do with the falling-off of appreciation of Council's efforts, I am asking Mr. Moon to have a chat with you when he comes down, and I shall be glad if you would quite freely give your opinion first as to the reason why the absurd clamour for a test-case has taken such a hold on certain towns in Yorkshire, and, secondly, what would be the best way of convincing our friends that they are, to speak vulgarly, "barking up a wrong tree."

The President said he had had a talk with Mr. Moon and had given him to understand that as regards some members of the Council they had by no means a large measure of confidence in them. Mr. Brierly and Mr. Hebden having said a few words, the matter dropped, and the next matter discussed was the Reading Association's letter about non-protected proprietaries. It was decided to support Reading. The Federation breaking-bulk questions (see last issue, p. 64) were answered "Yes" to the first, "No" to the second, and "Yes" to the third.

North Kent Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Clarendon Royal Hotel, Gravesend, on January 18, the President (Mr. A. Stooke, New Brompton) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. A. W. Hanson, W. Stedman, W. G. Wells, Payne (Chesterfield), J. E. French (Sittingbourne), W. E. Goff (Lincoln), R. T. Clarke, E. Millhouse, F. Moore, G. Bilton Porter, and the Hon. Secretary.

OPTICAL MATTERS.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Society of Chemist-Opticians, pointing out that the practice of sight-testing and spectacle-fitting was rapidly becoming a most important part of the work of many chemists, and urging local associations to devote time and attention to the consideration of optics, and the examinations of the Spectacle-makers' Company. The President explained that chemists, by becoming members of this Society, would benefit by a reduction of 20 per cent. off the fees chargeable by the official instructor for the Spectacle-makers' Guild examinations to the Society, and advised all members interested in optical matters to make themselves efficient by taking a proper course of lectures.

P.A.T.A. AND FEDERATION.

In reference to P.A.T.A. matters it was decided that the Hon. Secretary should write to six selected firms, requesting them to place their articles upon the protected list of the P.A.T.A., in accordance with the suggestions contained in the letter received from the Reading and District Chemists' Association.

The questions submitted by the Executive of the Federation were next considered, and while it was generally admitted that the practice of breaking bulk is detrimental in principle, yet it is unavoidable with certain preparations. The Association, however, did not recommend the Federation officially to approach the Inland Revenue authorities, as they were doubtless fully aware of the prevailing custom, and quite prepared to take action against cases of illegality.

The annual meeting and dinner were fixed for Wednesday, April 5, at the Clarendon Royal Hotel, Gravesend.

Irish Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

At Dublin, on January 13, the opening meeting for the ensuing session of this Association was held at the Nelson Café, 33 Lower Sackville Street, the President (Mr. Edgar

B. Aplin) in the chair. The President, having briefly reviewed the chief incidents of 1904, drew attention to the correspondence which had taken place between the Apothecaries' Hall and the Pharmaceutical Society relative to the use of the word "Apothecary" by hospital bodies when describing medicine compounders employed in those institutions (see *C. & D.*, January 14, p. 49). The thanks of chemists at large, he said, were due to Mr. Wells for his dignified and diplomatic handling of a matter which should never have arisen.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to a debate,

"SHOULD REGISTERED DRUGGISTS SERVE UPON JURIES?"

The question was threshed out in all its bearings, and it was laid down by Messrs. Moore, Creed, and others that the registered druggist was not less entitled to exemption from jury-service than the doctor, the pharmaceutical chemist, and the many other citizens exempted by Act of Parliament. Mr. Moore thought it was a question altogether for legislation, as in a matter of the kind the Society could do little or nothing. Mr. Creed pointed out that in many instances a druggist has to shut up his shop in order to attend court, and in some districts where there are no medical halls an emergency might arise in his absence and human life be lost for the want of some drug which the registered druggist is allowed to sell. A resolution of sympathy in the efforts which are being made by the chemists of Belfast to obtain the exemption of registered druggists from service upon juries was passed.

The Chairman stated that the annual dinner of the Association will probably be held next month, and a committee to carry out the arrangements is to be appointed at the meeting on January 20.

Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists.

A MEETING of this Association was held on January 12 at the residence of the President (Mr. J. W. Lake), Prospect Park, Exeter. In addition to the President there were present Messrs. J. Hinton Lake, P. F. Rowsell, D. Reid, E. Lemmon, T. Tickle (city analyst), T. C. Milton, H. Wippell Gadd (Hon. Secretary), F. Vinden, and Sloman.

EARLY CLOSING.

The meeting considered the provisions of the new Shop-hours Act, and the feeling expressed was that, although chemists are exempt, the Association should adopt a sympathetic attitude towards any early closing movement. It was recognised, however, that it would be very difficult for chemists generally to close one half-day. Mr. Reid said he believed the feeling of the Early-closing Association was that unless Saturday was to be the general closing-day no arrangement would be workable. Therefore they were trying to bring about the early closing on that day. Mr. Rowsell said he was afraid that would be a very difficult matter indeed. Mr. Reid said as a body chemists were too small to have much influence in the matter, which rested with the larger body of traders, but, at any rate, they could see whether they could fall in with the majority. It would be very well to close in the evening, but he did not think chemists could close for half a day. Mr. J. Hinton Lake agreed. Mr. Rowsell moved, and Mr. Lemmon seconded, that the matter stand over pending a report from the Early-closing Association as to what action that body proposed to take. The resolution was carried. Mr. Milton said he strongly objected to certain businesses being closed one day and others on another, and moved that the Early-closing Association be informed that this Association is in favour of an early-closing movement, provided that the early closing is on one day of the week only. Mr. J. Hinton Lake seconded the motion, which was carried with one dissentient.

OTHER MATTERS.

A communication was read from the Society of Chemist-Opticians drawing attention to the claims of that body. It was decided to allow the letter to lie upon the table.

The letter issued by the Reading Chemists' Association, asking for the co-operation of other organisations in securing the addition of certain proprietary articles to the P.A.T.A. list, was read, and the Hon. Secretary was empowered to write to the firms specified. Mr. Rowsell said if they could

only get about a dozen more proprietors to join the P.A.T.A., they would have on the list everything which had anything of a sale. A great effort should be directed towards the American firms whose articles are not on the list.

The Hon. Secretary reported the receipt of particulars of the Fairchild scholarship and prizes for students of pharmacy in Great Britain and Ireland, founded by Messrs. Fairchild Bros. & Foster, and it was decided to obtain copies of the circular for distribution among the assistants and apprentices in the city, and also to send a copy to the Governors of the Royal Albert Memorial College, where classes in pharmacy are held.

The meeting discussed the Weights and Measures (Metric System) Bill, but did not consider it expedient to pass any resolution on the subject.

The annual supper was fixed for February 1, and the President, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Milton were appointed a sub-committee to make the necessary arrangements.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.

A MEETING of the above Society was held on January 18, at the Montgomery Hall, Sheffield. Mr. A. Russell Fox occupied the chair. The correspondence included letters from the Federation, the Reading Association, and the Society of Chemist-opticians.

FEDERATION SUBJECTS.

The chief business of the evening was the consideration of the subjects recommended for consideration by the Executive of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations. These matters were introduced by

Mr. H. Antcliffe, who said he wished his remarks to be taken as personal, and not in his capacity as a member of the Executive Committee of the Federation.

How can more time be given to Federation Business?—This is a matter which has been before two or three annual meetings of the Federation. It has been thought that meetings might be held during the Conference, but this would probably meet with strong opposition from the Conference Executive. A more suitable time would be the Monday morning of Conference week, the meeting to conclude in good time for the usual Conference reception.

Breaking Bulk.—Under the present law there is nothing to prevent any licensed patent-medicine vendor breaking a stamped packet of a proprietary medicine and retailing in small quantities, so long as the same is not sold in an enclosure. This apparent concession on the part of the Inland Revenue Department is as harmful to the chemist and the authorities as it is unnecessary. For pills to be allowed to be sold unstamped because they are sent out in a piece of paper, and liquids in a teacup or other open vessel, in pennyworths, is beyond reason. The Act says "Packet, box, bottle, pot, phial, or other enclosure," so that the concession needs very finely handling to keep outside the terms of "packet, or other enclosure" named in the Act. Mr. Antcliffe thought there was a strong case to put before the Government Department, both from the chemist's interests and the loss of revenue to the country, as to why the Act should be strictly enforced.

The Shop-hours Act.—There were various Bills introduced into Parliament, but this one was backed by the Government. The exempting clause, so far as it relates to chemists, only mentions the sale of medicines and medical appliances, whereas in Lord Avebury's Bill the chemist was named. It is thought by some that an amendment on the lines of Lord Avebury's should be sought.

The Pharmacy Bill.—Referring to the new clause, Mr. Antcliffe inquired if the word "implying" is sufficient cover; if so, he thought the Society should take action against persons using the letters "A. P. S." at the present time, as Section 10 of the 1852 Act uses the same word and the amendment of 1898 gives a similar title to an associate—viz., "student-associate." These persons are surely "implying."

Provincial Pharmaceutical Education.—Mr. Antcliffe made the following comparison of the Scotch code and the Sheffield University course to show what is being done in large cities in England:

Scotch Code.

Division III. concerns "specialised instruction; advanced." Courses in this division must as a rule extend over at least three years.

Local Management Committee with added special skilled members.

Committee to establish special classes.

Appointment of special technical teachers.

Financial arrangements, accounted for by grants, fees, etc., with offered scholarships.

Examination for Honours certificate.

Sheffield University College.

A three years' course of instruction for pharmaceutical students preparing for the Minor examination.

University College, of which a late President of the Pharmaceutical Society is a member of the Committee of Management.

The establishment of classes was in this case simply the handing over of the local Society's school and issuing a special syllabus.

The appointment of a pharmaceutical chemist as lecturer in materia medica.

Income of University College (including grants, fees, etc.). Students offered scholarships on the University College general conditions. Special prizes offered by local Society; also News-holme Herbarium prize for students.

Examination for qualifying examination as a chemist.

The classes commence early in October, and finish at the end of March, with the following time-table and fees:

		£	s.	d.
Chemistry and physics ...	Wednesday, 6 to 9	1	10	0
Chemistry for advanced students, practical ...	Wednesday, 3 to 9	1	10	0
Botany—Lecture ...	Thursday, 6.30 to 7.30	0	10	6
Botany—Practical work ...	Thursday, 7.30 to 9.30	1	10	0*
Materia Medica (with use of museum) ...	Friday, 8 to 9	0	10	6

* Including lectures.

Mr. Antcliffe said that with a convenient time-table and combined fees for any one year of from 2l. 11s. to 3l. 10s. 6d., the lack of students points to some other cause than the want of educational opportunities. Do employers give sufficient chances to students to attend these classes? On the whole, he (the speaker) thought the Society would be safe in supporting Mr. Paterson's scheme.

The President said as regards the Federation meeting Monday morning would be inconvenient for members who came from a distance. The alternative was to take the afternoon of the day now devoted to pleasure. He suggested that a work the Federation might well take up was the preparation of a price-list that could be used by the chemists throughout the country.

Mr. J. Gilbert Jackson suggested that the Council of the Federation should confer with the Councils of the P.A.T.A. and the C.D.A., and arrange a date entirely apart from the Conference week, at which trade matters might be discussed altogether. It would be very difficult to arrange a price-list suitable for use throughout the country.

A resolution to the effect that the Federation meeting should not be held in Conference week was then proposed and passed.

In regard to breaking bulk a resolution was adopted that the practice is detrimental to the interests of the public, and should only be allowed in dispensing; and, further, that it is advisable for the Executive to approach the Inland Revenue authorities with a view to bringing about a discontinuance of the practice or to arrive at some understanding as to cases of illegality.

No resolution was moved on the Shop-hours Act, but in the case of the Pharmacy Bill a resolution was adopted approving of the Bill as modified by the amended Clause 7.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held in the Pharmaceutical Society's House, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on January 11, Mr. A. McCutcheon (Vice-President) in the chair.

A paper entitled

MINOR NOTES ON DISPENSING

was read by Mr. C. F. Henry.

Mr. Henry said no legislative protection would avail the pharmacist unless the man and his methods are right. This applied particularly to dispensing, which, after all, is the main line by which chemists maintain their professional standing with the Government and the public. It has been asked, When ought an apprentice to begin to learn to dispense? He ought to begin on the first day he enters, when he lifts a duster to dust a counter or shelf of bottles. He may thus learn to be careful and particular. The apprentice who cannot do these humbler duties well will never be a good dispenser.

The first thing to do with a prescription is to read it over and then copy it in the prescription-book. In this way the names and quantities of the ingredients and any doubtful symbol, or overdose or incompatibility, are seen and duly noted. Sometimes the intention of the prescriber needs a good deal of considering to discover, and this is best done before dispensing. The prescription-book should be ruled and written so as to make everything clear and ready of reference. A price-mark should be used and entered in the book and on the prescription, so that chemists may charge uniform prices.

When a prescription can be dispensed in more than one way, the method adopted should always be noted in the book. When, in a doubt, the prescriber is consulted, the result should always be noted. When "q.s." appears in a prescription, the actual quantity used should be recorded in the book and on the prescription itself, for the guidance of other dispensers.

The labels should always bear the folio and the date. When in directions "5j.," "5ij.," "3ss.," or "minims" appears, it should be ascertained if the patient has a medicine-glass. If not, the words "Small teaspoonful," etc., should be used as a precaution. When, say, 5 minims is ordered, and the patient has not got and will not purchase a minim measure, the dispenser should drop out of the patient's bottle the number of drops required to make 5 minims and then label after this fashion: "5 minims (10 drops)," or whatever the relationship may be between the minim and the drop of the liquid prescribed.

The patient's name should always be written on the prescription-envelope. This is especially useful where there is a family. The envelope should be coloured so that it may be readily distinguished among other papers. Mr. Henry then dealt with the actual dispensing of the prescription, winding up with the following "minor points":

Interest yourself in your work, and you will find much in your work that is interesting.

Don't wipe the dispensing-scale pans with your apron. Use a duster.

Put away all weights and measures immediately after using, and do not leave this to the next dispenser.

In folding powders make sure all the powder is within the inner fold, and none in the outer fold to shake out in an annoying way on the counter, or in the box, or on the patient's bedroom carpet.

The next paper was by Mr. J. W. Plenderleith, en

DISPENSING-COUNTER NOTES.

The following notes may be useful, but no claim to originality is made in submitting them.

Oxidised Pyrogallie Acid is now being used as an ingredient in ointments for skin-diseases. It is a black, gritty powder, insoluble in alcohol, ether, oils, and chloroform; soluble in water about 1 in 4, but, as the solution is very dark-coloured, it is somewhat difficult accurately to determine. Such an ointment has the following composition:

Acid. pyrogall. oxydat.	...	gr. x.
Sulph. præcip.	...	gr. xx.
Vaselin ad	...	3ss.

If the pyrogallie acid be rubbed up with a little of the vaseline first, the resulting ointment will have a speckled slaty-grey appearance; but if it be first of all rubbed up with a little water (about half a drachm), the resulting ointment is quite smooth and of a homogeneous shining black appearance, showing that a large proportion of the acid is in solution.

Strontium Bromide of commerce as a rule gives a slight precipitate when dissolved in water. This in some mixtures

will pass unnoticed, but if the mixture be otherwise transparent it produces an inelegant preparation. As the precipitate varies in quantity, the patient may have doubts as to the dispenser's accuracy. The precipitate is not effectually removed by filtration, but the addition of a few drops of hydrobromic acid clears up the solution at once. The precipitate, as in the case of zinc chloride, is probably due to oxybromide formed by expulsion of hydrobromic acid in the making of the salt.

Wool-fat as a pill-exipient is probably the one most used for massing such salts as protochloride of iron and permanganate of potassium. If used alone, it produces a mass which is much too soft for rolling out, consequently some inert powder is usually added to give the mass the requisite body: althea or liquorice is added to ferrous protochloride and kaolin to potassium permanganate. These are objectionable as unduly increasing the size of the pill, and the addition of althea or liquorice to ferrous protochloride introduces oxygen to contact with the iron salt, and consequently causes rapid oxidation. The excipient is much improved by the modification of adding to 90 parts of wool-fat 10 parts of yellow beeswax, melting together, and allowing to cool. This excipient has the advantages of producing a mass of workable consistence without adding inert powders; the pill is of minimum size; the massing is quickly done by adding straight off excipient equal to one-quarter the weight of the powder used; and the mass can be quickly rolled out, cut, and rounded. (Samples were shown which had been kept for three months, and there was no evidence of deterioration.) This particular proportion of wool-fat and yellow beeswax melts at blood-heat into a syrupy consistency, so that there is no objection on the ground of insolubility.

Collapsible Tubes are now much used for dispensing ointments. A simple method of filling them at the dispensing-counter is as follows: Take a piece of parchment paper just large enough to hold the ointment comfortably and roll the ointment in it into a cylinder narrower than the internal diameter of the metal tube. Push it into the tube, leaving some of the paper sticking out. Press the tube together, and, holding it down firmly with the edge of a spatula, pull out the parchment paper, which slips out quite clean, leaving the ointment in the tube. If a stiffish paste is to be thus filled into a tube, the paper may be smaller and be allowed to remain in, as it does not readily slip out.

Mr. J. Hutcheon read a long paper dealing with advertisements and whether they were worth reading. The reading of the papers was followed by a discussion.

Business Changes.

Properly authenticated business notices (not being advertisements) are inserted in this section free of charge if promptly communicated to the Editor.

E. RIMMEL, LTD., are removing their Regent Street shop from 180 to 119.

The address of Mr. A. Lawson, chemist and druggist, Hounslow, has been altered to 83 The Broadway.

MESSRS. HAGEDORN & Co., cork and celluloid manufacturers, have removed from 12 Paul Street, Finsbury, to 21 Edmund Place, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

The lease of the premises at 26 Sandgate Road, Folkestone, having expired, the South-Eastern Drug Co. has removed its business to 24 Sandgate Road, opposite.

Mr. J. S. GALLIMORE, chemist and druggist, late of Ordington, Birmingham, has acquired from Mr. W. Taylor the business at Kingsley Park Terrace, Northampton, carried on as "Progressive cash chemists."

MESSRS. S. MAW, SON & SONS are supplying new shop-fronts and interior fittings to premises at New Bond Street, for Monsieur Morny Frère, English and foreign chemist, to which reference was made in the *C. & D.* some weeks ago.

WHOSE IS IT?—The steam trawler *Umguza* arrived at Grimsby on Thursday with a case of chloroform which was picked up in the North Sea, 110 miles south-east of Spurn Head, on January 17. There are seventy bottles. Some damaged labels read: "Duncan's Chloroform," and the case is marked "Melbourne." There is nothing to show the name of the ship.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Cod-liver Oil Prosecutions.

A Protest and some Suggestions.

SIR,—Very few prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts have occasioned such interest as those for the sale of alleged adulterated cod-liver oil in the Chelsea district, one of which was heard and decided, as representing all, by the Kensington Board of Magistrates on Tuesday, January 17. Three samples were condemned by the public analyst of the district, on the ground that they contained admixture of foreign fish-oil, the percentages being 20 and 10 respectively. At the first hearing the analyst admitted that the physical constants of the oils were such as corresponded with those recorded for pure cod-liver oil by the principal workers on the subject, while the only feature upon which he based his indication of proportion of impurity was the relative intensity of certain colour-reactions. It was then decided that the samples should be submitted to the Government Laboratory for their decision, and, as a result, certificates were furnished stating that the oils did not comply with the characters and tests of the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, and "therefore were not genuine."

It will be seen from this brief statement that several interesting points are involved. A public analyst takes upon himself to advise prosecution for the sale of an alleged adulterated natural substance which is liable to variation according to the country of origin, the method of preparation, and the process of refinement; further, the substance in all its physical and chemical constants agreed with the figures published for purity, while the Government Laboratory held that non-compliance with the characters and tests of the British Pharmacopœia was sufficient to indicate impurity, and, presumably, was a ground for condemnation under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. Having had the opportunity of examining during the past fifteen years (years of plenty and years of extreme scarcity) oils produced in England, Scotland, Newfoundland, Norway, and Japan, in varying stages of refinement, I am in a position to be able to state how the oils sold at the present time differ from those in commerce ten years or more ago, and with some considerable amount of certainty whether such oils are sophisticated or not. These results will be stated in detail in a paper in next week's issue.

What must be called attention to, however, and in my opinion promptly, is the inconvenience and expense involved by what one may almost call a reckless prosecution of this kind. The retail pharmacist is assailed, the wholesale druggist, either by reason of warranty or not, becomes involved in the case, and he, in his turn, involves a manufacturer—possibly a foreigner, and one to whom the methods of carrying out the provisions of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts in this country must appear absolutely astounding. In this case it involved the calling of experts, both chemical and medical, the utilisation of commercial experience (all guided by eminent counsel), only to be met by a solicitor, the Medical Officer of Health, and the public analyst primarily responsible for the prosecution. The defence may involve an expense of nearly three hundred pounds, without any recompense being made to those who, it was finally proved, have committed no offence.

In considering the statement issued from the Government Laboratory on this subject it was necessary to mention in evidence that the characters and tests of the British Pharmacopœia are only intended to be succinct statements to act as a fair guide in the interpretation of the descriptions of the British Pharmacopœia, but they are not in-

tended to be comprehensive, neither, naturally, can they be kept up to date, when it is only possible to publish a Pharmacopœia once in ten or fifteen years. The publication of a Pharmacopœia at shorter intervals would be fraught with more danger than safety, in view of the many changes that it would involve in medicine, and the work would no longer be a readily remembered guide to prescribers and dispensers, which is the intention of it.

If non-compliance with the actual characters and tests of the British Pharmacopœia were held to be conclusively condemnatory by an analyst under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and that alone, how could prosecutions be successful in the case of arsenic-contaminated reduced iron and phosphate of soda, in neither of which instances is the possible presence of arsenic referred to in the characters and tests.

A little point was made by the prosecution that those who manufactured this oil did not attend to give evidence. Would it be likely they would attend to give evidence as to their particular methods of refinement, which processes are probably commercial secrets of considerable monetary value, and the revelation of which might be of far greater intrinsic value than even failure to secure a dismissal of such cases as those under notice? In my opinion the public interests are not served or protected by such prosecutions as these; and although in the sale of drugs minimal standards, as in milk and similar agricultural products, are in a sense highly undesirable, yet it is evident that some standards must be framed, or, as suggested by the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, some special Board of Reference appointed which may have referred to them considerations such as this, which involve an innocent person and those trading with him in an expense of hundreds of pounds on an absolutely unproven prosecution.

I hope pharmacists and the drug-trade generally will give this matter thoughtful attention, with the view to some protective action in their own interests. It is a matter of pressing and serious import, which affects the welfare of all.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN C. UMNEY.

48 Southwark Street, S.E., January 18.

The New Clause.

SIR,—I do not know that the country has been apathetic over the discussion of this clause. I rather think we have been watching to see how much the Pharmaceutical Council could get in the direction of justice and right. Personally I never expected that we should be able, at this late stage, to get all directors qualified. When I was writing on this subject a year or two ago, I suggested that we should try to get the actual manager of a company recognised by law as a qualified director, and I thought this was all we had any chance of getting; but when I saw the Pharmaceutical Council going for much more than I thought it ever would get, I did not think anybody ought to hamper it. I pointed out at that time that many old established drug-businesses had, for various reasons, availed themselves of the Limited Companies Acts, and in such cases the directors are seldom all qualified. One gentleman told me at that time that if we persisted in trying to get all directors qualified, such *bona-fide* drug companies would be forced over to the opposition. If the revised clause goes as far as appears on the face of it, it goes a long way, and will, I have no doubt, meet with most strenuous opposition from what we may call, for lack of a better name, "outside drug companies." It will, for one thing, stop persons who have failed in other lines of life from floating bogus drug companies in order that they may get salaries as managing directors. It will also stop the appointment of outsiders to the position of general manager, if the clause is sufficiently stringent. I do not, however, quite like the words "unless that part of the business of such company shall be managed by a director who shall be a registered person." I think they might have been more stringent. A man might, for instance, call himself qualified director and yet have an unqualified general manager under him, drawing a big salary for doing the work. By looking in once or twice a week the qualified man might consider his duties as managing director faithfully discharged. He might even be at the mercy of a bogus drug company, and appear to be manager when he was occupying a very subordinate place, and drawing a

very small salary. The whole policy of these companies has been to look upon the qualified man much in the way a man who has defrauded another of his heritage looks on his victim, and the fact that they carry on drug companies in defiance of the Pharmacy Acts, simply because the House of Lords said these Acts were not strong enough to prevent them, shows that they are the men who will strain any kind of clause to its last link. This part of the clause might have been stronger if it had run somewhat in this way :

Unless that part of the business of such company shall be managed by a director who shall be a registered person within the meaning of the Pharmacy Act, not engaged in any other business but that of the company, and spending sufficient time in its service, and occupying such a position among its employés, as shall guarantee that he is in *bona-fide* control.

I do not know if this is according to proper legal phraseology, but it is sufficient to convey my meaning. For the rest the clause will settle the titles question, and ought to make Mr. Broadhead and others interested in that point happy. I have never thought the titles question of vital importance, but I am glad to see it dealt with in this clause all the same. As the clause is smiled on by a Government Department, the chances of the Bill must be fairly good.

JAMES REID.

Dumfries, January 16.

Bradford Poison-cases.

SIR,—Referring to your report of the above, I notice Mr. Glyn-Jones makes reference to a circular issued by this [Patent-medicine Vendors and Drug-stores'] Association as being of a threatening character towards registered chemists, and I hope in justice to myself, and in the eyes of the trade, you will allow me to refute *in toto* such an untruthful allegation. I may also add these prosecutions are being conducted without prejudice and against no one in particular (which is more than can be said for the opposite party). No one has a greater regard for Mr. Glyn-Jones than I; he has been truly a good friend (in disguise) to us, and I commend him on his notable and ingenious defence of a prosecution, sufficient to puzzle the proverbial Philadelphia lawyer; but I think it ill becomes him as a barrister to cast such an aspersion on me in my official capacity in this Association, and giving him work to do—viz., to interpret his own Act of Parliament. No one who is acquainted with me will say I am anything but thin-skinned, and I want no favour, but I would remind our esteemed friend in making his *début* he must learn to taste defeat sometimes. Every dog has his day,

Yours faithfully,

W. JAMES LEGGETT.

Liverpool, January 6.

Hon. General Secretary.

[The circular to which Mr. Glyn-Jones referred is as follows: Important to Chemists and Stores. | Patent Medicine Vendors' Deience Association | Limited | For the Protection of all interests of Vendors of Stamped | Medicines | Incorporated November 3rd 1892. | Supported by the Co-operative Union Limited, Manchester; | Pharmaceutical Chemists, Druggists, and Proprietors | of Medicines. | Analyst, Edward Davies, F.C.S., F.I.C., Liverpool; | President, W. Green, Esq., Bolton; | Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, W. James Leggett, Esq., 95 Boaler St., Liverpool. | Bankers: North & South Wales, Everton Road. |

Dear Sir,—The attitude of the Pharmaceutical Society having in the unanimous opinion of our Committee been most oppressive and unfair in their attempt to construct the Pharmacy Act to suit their requirements, and to obtain a monopoly of what they are not entitled to, viz., the sale of Proprietary Medicines, which have hitherto been sold by dealers for upwards of a century. Our Committee, however, have resolved to vigorously enforce the Pharmacy Act upon Chemists, and to see they carry out the law (according to the dictum of the Pharmaceutical Society) to the very utmost, and to prosecute all Chemists who violate the laws regulating the Sale of Poisons.

As we have the support of many, and the sympathy of hundreds of Chemists in thus fighting for our rights, and retaliating against the Pharmaceuticalities, our Committee have resolved to give such Chemists who side with us in this movement the opportunity of becoming members, for which an annual subscription of not less than 10s. 6d. is required, and payable to the Secretary, who will forward acknowledgment of same, and all such Chemists who join us will not be interfered with but left for the Pharmaceutical Society to look after (if they think fit?) but we shall expect information

from them respecting any Chemist who is infringing the Pharmacy or Arsenic Act or illegally trading in any way, and any Chemist who is not on our Register will be considered antagonistic to the object we have in view.

Our Committee would be sorry to prosecute any Chemist who is in favour of repealing the Statute, and they consider this method of giving them the opportunity to join our Society is the only way of testing their feeling on the subject, and exonerating themselves from prosecution.

Names of subscribers are not published in any way. Chemists who wish to become members should kindly remit within seven days to enable us to entirely complete registration.

Yours faithfully,

W. JAMES LEGGETT.

Secretary.

June 27th, 1904.

Adulterated Mace.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. William Kirkby's remarks, I feel justified in writing again in order to make my position quite clear. At the time of writing my first letter I was not aware that the test had been previously published, and I simply recorded the result of my own experiments on the subject. I was not surprised, however, to learn that the experiment had been published some years ago, for it is only natural that the method should have suggested itself before. Notwithstanding this, the fact remains that there are many who were not aware of the test; and it was for those who did not know, that my letter was written. I am obliged to Mr. Kirkby for the correction of the botanical name, and before closing I should like also to ask him, whether in his opinion the coloration is due simply to the saponification of the oil, or to some resin or other matter which is contained in the wild mace?

Yours, etc.,

Liverpool, January 17.

J. H. PRITCHARD.

Collecting Subscriptions.

SIR,—The Executive of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations recently passed a resolution recommending the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to authorise divisional secretaries to collect annual subscriptions on behalf of the Society. This resolution was duly communicated to the Secretary of the Society, and I append a copy of the reply received.

Yours faithfully,

W. WATSON-WILL.

DEAR SIR,—Your letter of the 7th was submitted to the Council at its meeting yesterday and was by that body referred to the Committee on Organisation, which met immediately after the Council. The Committee carefully considered the views put forward by you on behalf of the Federation, but it was decided that in the opinion of the members of the committee there does not exist any necessity for a change in the duties of the divisional secretaries of the Society in reference to the collection of subscriptions.

Your Executive Committee may not, perhaps, be aware that under the present regulations divisional secretaries are not prohibited from collecting subscriptions, and members of the Society are specifically informed that if they prefer it they may remit through the local officer.

I may add that since the present system of organisation was established in 1900 the subscriptions have come in very much better, and, as a matter of office administration, I have been infinitely better able to deal with them.

I am, etc.,

R. BREMIDGE, Secretary.

January 12, 1905.

Indiarubber Sponges.

SIR,—In reference to the report of Rothband v. Wanklyn in your last issue, with respect to the claim brought against me, the plaintiff admitted in court he had a steam-pipe on his premises, which, to my mind, was the cause of the I.R. sponges going out of shape, as they had been left in the original case, and this case may have been put close to the steam-pipe. The trade in these sponges has been going on in England for about five years, and in Russia a longer time, but I do not think so long as twenty-five years. I believe the original I.R. sponge was shown in the Exhibition of 1851, but for some reason it was not marketable.

Yours truly,

H. A. WANKLYN.

17 Manchester Avenue, E.C., January 17.

* * * Pressure on our space this week compels us to hold over several letters and many replies to correspondents which are in type.

Trade Notes.

"ARABELLA," the Hungarian mineral water, has been placed on the P.A.T.A. protected list.

THE 1905 edition of Wellcome's Photographic Exposure-record and Diary has just reached us, and we hope to refer to it next week.

MARTINDALE NOVELTIES.—The Chalk's bottle in metal case which was figured in this column last week (p. 45) was wrongly named.

MESSRS. WARDALE & Co., mechanics to the dental profession, have, in addition to their offices at 132 High Street, East Ham, E., secured premises at Market Street East, which they have fitted up with the latest plant for dental work. The firm's connection with chemists has been going ahead so well that the extension has become necessary.

RANKIN'S OINTMENT.—Messrs. Rankin & Borland, of Kilmarnock, the manufacturers of this ointment, intimate that no change in the manner of selling this ointment is required pending the decision of the High Court. Until that Court definitely declares that the ointment is not a Part 2 poison it is unnecessary to regard it as being in Part 1, and Messrs. Rankin & Borland give a guarantee to this effect.

A1 MENTHOL SNUFF.—Messrs. Shirley Bros. Ltd., Whitecross Works, London, S.E., are helping along the sale of the A1 Menthol Snuff by issuing a neat enamelled-metal showcard. The card is 4 by 6½ inches in size, and has in the centre a facsimile, in relief and colours, of a box of menthol snuff. The menthol snuff is put up in dainty little imitation oak boxes, while the eucalyptus-and-menthol snuff is packed in imitation tortoiseshell snuff-boxes.

SHOWCARDS.—Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown, 7 Ardwick Green North, Manchester, have brought out a neat enamelled showcard to advertise the "Oriental" tooth-paste. The card has white lettering on a red ground, and includes in the design facsimiles of a pot and a tube of tooth-paste. The tube form of "Oriental" tooth-paste is now packed in cartons, and as half-a-dozen of these cartons are mounted on a card, a kind of living showcard results, which should be good for business.

FROG-IN-THE-THROAT WINDOWS.—Messrs. John Morgan Richards & Sons, Ltd., 46 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., inform us that photographs of "Frog-in-the-Throat" window-displays which are being made by chemists are coming in well. The competition closes at the end of April, prizes to the value of 40*l.* being offered. A leaflet referring to window-displays is published by the company, entitled "How to Make your Window Pay your Rent," and a copy is sent to any chemist who applies.

THE R.E.P. BOOK.—Messrs. Elliman, Sons & Co., Slough, inform us that they now supply chemists with their popular R.E.P. book for sale at the rate of thirteen copies for 8*s.*, or six copies for 4*s.*—in each case net, cash with order and carriage paid, or if carriage forward twenty-eight days' credit is given. The Elliman E.F.A. book will also be supplied at 8*s.* for twelve or 4*s.* 6*d.* for six, net, terms otherwise as above. The R.E.P. book contains 256 pages, is copiously illustrated, and gives such useful advice for the household that chemists have only to show it in order to ensure sales. The other book deals with the treatment of domestic animals.

MR. HICKS'S CLINICAL THERMOMETERS.—Following upon the recent correspondence in a London morning paper regarding clinical thermometers (see *C. & D. Supplement*, December 10), Mr. J. J. Hicks, of Hatton Garden, obtained from Mr. Guest, who initiated the correspondence, the thermometer he complained about and submitted it to the National Physical Laboratory. He has now obtained from Mr. Glazebrook, F.R.S., the Principal, a report of observations by three observers. These bring out the interesting fact that two of the observers got the record in the half-minute, but the third with the same thermometer did not get a record of his normal temperature in half a minute except on one occasion out of four, showing that personal idiosyncrasy counts in taking the body-temperature. This observer had experience in testing clinical thermometers, but not for some years past. It is apparent, therefore, that Mr. Guest was wrong, and not Mr. Hicks's thermometer.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Friday, January 20.

London College of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Venetian Chamber, Holborn Restaurant, W.C., at 7 P.M. Annual dinner, Lieut.-Colonel A. Rotton, J.P., in the chair.

Tuesday, January 24.

Bradford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, Darley Street, at 9 P.M. Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant on "Should Commercial Methods be Included in the Minor Curriculum?" Clause 7 will also be discussed if time allows.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association, Birmingham. Social evening.

Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association, 33 Mount Pleasant Road, at 9 P.M. Discussion on regulations necessary for the sale of poisons.

Wednesday, January 25.

Nottingham Chemists' Association, Calvert's Café, Long Row, at 9 P.M. Short papers by members.

Leeds Chemists' Association, Powolny's Assembly-rooms, at 8.30 P.M. Annual ball. Tickets, 7*s.* 6*d.* each, from Mr. W. T. Castlelow, 7 Queen Victoria Street, Leeds.

Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonchouse Chemists' Association, Technical Schools, Plymouth. Lecture by Mr. Thomas Maben on "The Preparation of Serums and Vaccines."

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association, Park Hotel, at 4 P.M. Annual meeting, at which Mr. W. R. Hopkins, the new President, will deliver an address. The annual dinner will be held at 6.30 P.M., when Mr. R. A. Robinson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, will be present. Tickets, 6*s.* each, may be had from Mr. R. Mumford, 17 Meteor Street, Cardiff.

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 9 P.M. Mr. D. McEwan, "Notes on Dispensing"; Mr. W. Duncan, "Queries and Notes."

Public Dispensers' Association, St. Bride Institute, Ludgate Circus, E.C., at 8 P.M. Annual general meeting. Mr. G. W. Lindsay on "Reminiscences of Apprenticeship-days, by an Old Hand."

Western Chemists' Association, Norfolk Square Hotel, London Street, Paddington, W., at 9 P.M. Smoking-concert, to which all chemists are invited, whether members of the Association or not.

Nottingham Chemists' Association, Calvert's Café, Long Row, at 9 P.M. Mr. A. E. Beilby on "Legislation and the Drug-trade."

Thursday, January 26.

Cheltenham Chemists' Association, Queen's Hotel, Cheltenham. Annual meeting, at which Mr. R. A. Robinson, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, will give an address. The meeting will be preceded (at 7 P.M.) by a dinner, for which tickets, 5*s.* each, may be obtained from Mr. J. A. Thomas, Collego Pharmacy, Cheltenham.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 P.M. Mr. J. T. Cart on "Ferments."

Sheffield Chemists' Athletic Club. Smoking-concert.

Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland, Ulster Hall, Belfast, at 8 P.M. Annual musical evening. Sir James Haslett, M.P., will preside.

Barnsley Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, at 7 P.M. Ordinary meeting.

London Chemists' Association, North London Branch, Athenæum, Camden Road, at 3.30 P.M. Discussion on the new seventh clause of the Pharmacy Bill.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Trade Association, 94 West Regent Street, Glasgow, at 9 P.M. Business meeting.

Liverpool Chemists' Association, Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, at 8 P.M. Mr. P. H. Marsden will give a lantern-lecture on "Moscow: Mother of Cities."

Friday, January 27.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 3 P.M. Afternoon meeting. Professor A. W. Crossley on "Pharmaceutical Regulations in Germany," and Mr. P. H. Marsden on "The Laws Relating to the Practice of Pharmacy in Russia."

Saturday, January 28.

Inter-pharmacy Football League Matches. London v. Metropolitan College; Westminster v. Muter's College.

THE Junior Pharmacy Ball is to be held on March 1. Mr. Percival Trick, Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C., is the Hon. Secretary.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., January 19.

AT the drug-auctions, which were resumed to-day, after an interval of six weeks, a large supply of goods was offered, of which a fair proportion changed hands, prices on the whole tending easier. Cape aloes was much lower, but good Curaçao, on the other hand, was dearer. Asafetida brought steady prices, the offerings including some B.P. tear. Balsam of tolu and buchu tended easier. Sumatra benzoin was about steady, little demand being shown for other descriptions. Buchu was easier and plentiful, with a comparative absence of good green leaf. Cardamoms were flat and lower. Cascara sagrada was forced off at a low figure, and higher prices were paid for dragon's-blood. Gamboge brought extreme prices, and steady rates were also paid for Jamaica honey. Rio ipecacuanha, under forced sales, brought lower prices, but, apart from this, the principal importers were firm. Rhubarb was about steady, and Timnevelly senna sold at rather lower prices. Beeswax was flat generally, the tendency of Jamaica being easier if anything.

Outside of the drug-auctions the principal alterations of importance include an advance of 2*d.* in hypophosphites, and a decline of 2*s.* 6*d.* in quicksilver. Mercurials are unaltered, however. Guaiacol carbonate and creosote carbonate are lower. Tartaric acid is easier. Quinine is more inquired for, but there is an absence of speculative demand. A steady trade is being done in spot shellac at lower prices. Saffron is dearer, and still higher prices are cabled for golden seal. Castor oil is firmer, and sandarac is lower. Alterations in spices include lower prices for cloves, pepper, and nutmegs. The subjoined table shows the principal alterations of the week :

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes, Curaçao	Myrrh	Acid, tartaric	Aloes, Cape
Dragon's blood	Oil, castor	Balsam Tolu	Cardamoms
Gamboge	Saffron	Benzols	Cascara
Golden seal		Buchu	sagrada
Hypophosphites		Nutmegs	Creosote carb.
		Oil, cottonseed	Guaiacol carb.
		Pepper	Ipecac. (Rio)
		Petroleum	Pepper
		Senna (Indy.)	(Penang)
		Wax, bees'	Quicksilver
		(Jamaica)	Sandarac
			Shellac (spot)

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, January 19:—Castor oil is dearer, and menthol is flat at 16½*m.* per kilo.

SMYRNA, December 18:—The sales of opium for the week ended Wednesday amount to 160 cases for the United States, at full prices. The frost continues, and an advance is expected.

NEW YORK, January 19:—Business here is slow. Opium continues steady at \$2.72 per lb. for case lots of druggists'. Peppermint oil is weak at \$3.25, and menthol is depressed at \$2.40 per lb. Lycopodium has advanced to 90c. per lb., and senega remains easy at 62c. per lb. Norwegian cod-liver oil is weak at \$44 per barrel, and refined camphor is strong at 78c. per lb. in barrels.

AMSTERDAM, January 19:—At the auction of cinchona held here to-day 9,370 packages were offered, weighing 838,246 kilos., and containing 41,163 kilos. of quinine sulphate, compared with 47,210 kilos. q.s. offered at the auction on December 15. Of the above quantity 8,409 packages were sold at an average unit of 6.15c. per half-kilo., against 6.30c. paid at the auction on December 15. The following were the approximate quantities of quinine purchased by the principal buyers: English and American factories who bought the equivalent of 13,589 kilos.; the Brunswick factory, 5,694 kilos; the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories, 5,535 kilos.; the Frankfort and Stuttgart factories, 4,341 kilos.; and various buyers 7,261 kilos. The prices paid for the manufacturing-bark ranged from 7¼c. to 60¾c. per half-kilo., and for druggists' bark from 5½c. to 54¼c. per half-kilo.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—An advice from the Continent states that in addition to the regular consumption, which has continued very large for a long time past on account of the war, there is said to be a good demand to cover this year's requirements for manufacturing purposes. It is said that home and foreign manufacturers are, however, sold out of crystals for the next few months, so that it is not possible to procure large quantities: 40 per cent. crystals are not obtained under 125*m.* per 100 kilos., so that it is probable that higher prices will shortly come into force.

ACID, TARTARIC, is quoted 10½*d.* per lb. for foreign and 11*d.* for English.

AMMONIA SALTS.—Carbonate is firm on the basis of 3½*d.* per lb. Sal ammoniac is unaltered at 40*s.* and 42*s.* per cwt. Prices of liquor ammonia are about 10 per cent. higher. Sulphate is quoted 1*l.* 5*s.* in London, 12*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* Hull, Liverpool, 12*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 13*l.*, and Leith 13*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; Beekton is 13*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* to 13*l.* 5*s.*, and Beekton terms 13*l.* per ton. An advice from the Continent in regard to carbonate of ammonia states that as consumption has fallen off at present the English makers especially are making pressing offers on the German market, which include some cheap prices here and there. There is a possibility of a general falling-off in price. At present, however, the very firm position of crude material does not allow of this.

ARROWROOT.—Natal at auction was bought in at 5½*d.* per lb.

BISMUTH.—There is still a good demand for salts, principally for export, on the basis of 9*s.* 8*d.* per lb. for subnitrate in 1-cwt. lots. Practically all the cheap lots in second-hands have now been cleared, and makers' prices have to be paid.

CINCHONA.—The exports from Java during the first half of January amounted to 387,000 Amsterdam lbs., against 500,000 Amst. lbs. and 227,000 Amst. lbs. at the corresponding periods of 1903 and 1902 respectively. In the drug-auction 14 serons of fair Loxa sold at from 11½*d.* to 1*s.* per lb., 70 serons of small broken chips of Loxa character sold at from 7½*d.* to 10¼*d.*, and damaged 4*d.* to 7¾*d.*; 41 bales flat Calisaya brought 8*d.* to 9*d.* for sound and 4*d.* to 8*d.* for damaged; and 46 serons Huancabo brought from 9*d.* to 9½*d.* per lb. Fair Maracaibo sold at 5*d.* for sound and 2*d.* to 3*d.* for damaged.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Quiet. Best white crystals on the spot are quoted 78*s.*, and powder 80*s.*; 98 per cent. powder is 82*s.*

CREOSOTE CARBONATE has been reduced to 6*s.* 8*d.* per lb.

DEXTRENE.—An advice from the Continent states that of late months the market has lost its usual activity, and prices could not be fully maintained in the face of the poor demand. Here and there offers up to 34*m.* to 35*m.* per 100 kilos. have been made. Second-hands also hold some still cheaper stocks, which influence the market. In consideration of the position of raw material, however, a general fall in price is not regarded as probable.

GALLS.—The quotation for Chinese is 53*s.*, c.i.f.

GLYCERIN.—An advice from the Continent states that the hitherto comparatively mild winter has kept the consumption within normal limits. There is keen competition between the manufacturers, and prices of distilled have gone down to the lowest point. It is owing to this circum-

stance that an increase in price has not yet taken place, although crude glycerin has considerably advanced of late.

GOLDEN SEAL.—The price in the United States has advanced to 7s., c.i.f.

GUAIACOL CARBONATE.—The home and export price has been fixed at 13s. 9d. per lb., with discounts varying according to quantity.

HYPOPHOSPHITES.—The makers announce an advance of 2d. per lb., the price of lime in 5-cwt. quantities now being 1s. 9d., and potash and soda 1s. 11d. per lb.

OIL, BERGAMOT, is quoted 10s. 4d. per lb., c.i.f., for a good brand.

OIL, CASTOR, is firmer, Hull make being quoted for prompt delivery at 25l. 7s. 6d. per ton for firsts and 21l. 7s. 6d. for seconds, ex wharf London.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on January 16 that no alteration is to be noted in the state of the cod-liver oil market. Buyers are still holding back and waiting further reports from the cod-fishing centres. The weather has been very stormy during the month, and but few attempts have been made to fish. A certain improvement is to be registered in the fatness of the cod, which, however, remain far from satisfactory. The size of the cod itself appears but little better than last year. The output of the winter-fishing until now is of no importance. The quotation for last year's non-congealing cod-liver oil is still about 150s. per barrel, f.o.b. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 38 barrels, against 59 barrels at the corresponding date of last year. Private advices received in London substantially confirm the above in regard to stormy weather. It is also possible that the season will be several weeks later in commencing this year. Meanwhile prices on the spot are nominal at about 160s. or probably a shade less.

A correspondent in the North informs us that he has an advice from friends on the Hindu Island, north of Lototen, who say, "There is a rumour of fish, but weather has forbidden all thought of fishing since Christmas."

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—American GH is firm but quiet at 17s. per lb., London terms, and for a pure brand of Wayne County 14s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f., is quoted. Japanese demethylised is quoted 5s. 6d. spot for Kobayashi. In auction 3 cases Stilwell's oil were limited at 15s. 3d. per lb.; 5 cases of Japanese demethylised unworked (Kobayashi) sold without reserve at from 4s. to 4s. 10d. per lb.—delivery in about a month.

OPIMUM.—The London market is steady with a fair demand for manufacturing seconds Tokat at 8s. 9d. per lb. Good "druggists'" is obtainable at 7s. 9d., there being little demand, however. Persian is almost unobtainable.

SMYRNA, January 6:—The sales this week amount to 32 cases, including 26 cases Karahissar talequale for America, and six cases Yerli and Karahissar for France and Germany. From our opium-growing districts we learn that the acreage under cultivation is only about 30 per cent. of what it was last year at same period. If such is the case, we fear an advance will set in, if speculators and the States buy largely. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 4,136 cases, against 1,679 cases at same period last year.

SALONICA, January 12.—Owing to hard frost, which has been prevailing during this fortnight in the Macedonia producing districts, our opium-market has advanced 3d. It is rumoured that a portion of the growing crop is damaged, and holders consequently are beginning to show a firm tone. The general tendency is upward. The arrivals from the interior amount to date to about 2,100 cases, of which 1,295 have already been exported. If we admit that there are still in the interior 400 to 700 cases, the whole 1904 Salonica crop of opium would be of 2,500 to 2,800 cases.

PETROLEUM is easier at 5½d. per gal. for American, and 7d. is still quoted for water-white, and 4¾d. for Russian.

QUICKSILVER.—The importers have reduced their prices by 2s. 6d. per bottle, to 7l. 12s. 6d., but no alteration has been made in mercurials.

QUININE has been more inquired for, but only a small business has been done, including May delivery at 10½d. per oz. There are spot buyers at 10½d., but 10¾d. seems to be the general quotation in second-hands for good brands of German sulphate.

The exports of "quinine, quinine preparations," etc., during the ten months ending October were as follows:

	1902.	1903.	1904.
Kilos. ...	179,000	152,900	135,600

SAFFRON is dearer, and the lowest price for finest B.P. Valencia is now 24s. 6d. per lb., net.

SANDARAC.—Prices are lower, owing to the offering of practically a thousand packages on account of one of the shellac speculators.

SEEDS.—Russian *Anise* is offering at 20s. per cwt. on the spot, but the demand is slow. Dutch *Caraways* are firm at 22s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. *Coriander* is quiet, but steady, at 19s. per cwt. for Bombay, at 30s. for Russian, and at 33s. to 35s. for Mogador. *Cumin* sells slowly at 27s. 6d. per cwt. for Malta, and at 19s. to 22s. for ordinary to good Morocco. *Fenugreek* is firm at 9s. to 9s. 3d. per cwt. on the spot for Morocco. *Canary* is steadier at 68s. per quarter for Turkish, and at 71s. 6d. for Mazagan. *Linseed* is quiet at 38s. to 40s. per quarter for fine clean.

SHELLAC.—The spot demand continues, and a fair trade has been done, including fair to good Orange TN at from 150s. to 155s. per cwt., with fine orange from 160s. to 170s.; free AC Garnet, 150s. to 153s., and blocky, 145s. Business in futures continues suspended. The Calcutta price is now Rs. 69 for TN orange, against Rs. 74 8a. last Thursday.

SODA ACETATE is very firm at 18l. per ton on the spot, very little being obtainable.

SPICES.—At auction on Wednesday the small supplies of *Ginger* offered were practically all bought in, including fair medium and plump washed Cochin at 22s., and medium cut and scraped at 45s. *Pimento* partly sold at 2¾d. for greyish, and fine Nyassaland *Chillies* partly sold at 36s. to 37s. for fine; Mombassa was bought in at 35s. for fair. *Nutmegs* were easier, *Mace* being steady. Singapore *Pepper* was bought in at 5½d. for fair, and Ceylon at 5½d. per lb. also. Privately Singapore pepper is lower, with sellers at 5½d. for January-March shipment, and on the spot fair is quoted 5½d. per lb. Of *White pepper* fine ALP Singapore sold at 9d. per lb. Privately a fair business has been done in Singapore at 8¼d. and Penang at 7¾d., the latter being rather lower. Of Zanzibar *Cloves* 37 bales in auction sold at 4¾d. for good bright, and barely fair at 4¼d. per lb. Privately the delivery market is lower, January-March shipment having been sold at 4¾d. to 4d., March-May 4½d. to 4¼d., April-June 4¾d. to 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb.

London Drug-auctions.

At the drug auctions to-day Mr. Urwick proposed, and Mr. Arnold Baiss seconded, a resolution to the effect that any proposed changes in regard to matters arising out of the drug-auctions should be brought before the "Room" before twelve o'clock, or as soon after as possible—say, at a time when the brokers were changing in the pulpit. This would prevent the suggestions that resolutions were rushed through without the wishes of brokers and others being consulted. It was also suggested that notices of resolutions regarding drug-auction matters should be given at the commencement of the sale. The following table shows the quantity of goods offered and sold:

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Aloes—				Cantharides(China)	10	...	0
Cape.....	114	...	98	Cardamoms	550	...	160
Curaçao.....	152	...	132	Cascara sagrada	966	...	866
Socotrine	72	...	0	Cascarilla	50	...	34
Zanzibar	15	...	5	Cashew-nuts	27	...	0
Ambergris	8	...	0	Cassia fistula	76	...	0
Aniseed	20	...	0	Cinchona	247	...	177
Aniseed star	4	...	0	Cevadilla	3	...	0
Annatto-seed	15	...	0	Coca-leaves	28	...	22
Antimony	10	...	0	Cochineal siftings	5	...	0
Areca	43	...	10	Colocynth	34	...	4
Asafetida	281	...	201	Cowhage	2	...	0
Asphaltum	5	...	0	Croton-seed	26	...	0
Balsam Canada	1	...	1	Cubebs	25	...	0
Copaiba	1	...	0	Cumin-seed	55	...	0
Peru	3	...	0	Cuscus	3	...	0
Tolu	35	...	10	Cuttle-fish bone	17	...	0
Benzoin—				Dill-seed	20	...	0
Palembang	82	...	0	Divi-divi	2	...	0
Siam and Saigon	39	...	10	Dragon's blood	13	...	3
Sumatra	216	...	56	Elemi	42	...	5
Buchu	95	...	0	Ergot	19	...	*2
Calumba	140	...	0	Fenugreek	40	...	0
Camphor (Jap.ref.)	39	...	0	Galangal	50	...	10
Canella alba	20	...	0	Gamboge	19	...	19
Cannabis indica	25	...	1	Gelatin	10	...	0

Offered	Sold	Offered	Sold
Gentian	34 ... 24	Oils, wood	59 ... 0
Guaiacum	43 ... 43	Olibanum	16 ... 0
Gum arabic	202 ... 0	Orange-peel	63 ... 9
Henbane ext. (es) ..	6 ... 0	Orchella-weed	75 ... 0
Henbane-leaves ...	14 ... 0	Orris	36 ... 0
Honey—		Pareira brava	15 ... 0
Chilian	6 ... 6	Patchouli	9 ... 0
Honduras	10 ... 4	Poppy-heads	100 ... 0
Jamaica	275 ... 38	Puree	2 ... 0
New Zealand ...	38 ... 10	Quince-seed	3 ... 0
Queensland	50 ... 20	Rhubarb—	
Insect-flowers ..	20 ... 0	China	113 ... 16
Pecactuanha—		English cuttings ..	39 ... 0
Cartagena	1 ... 1	Rhatany	62 ... 4
Johore	33 ... 9	"Roots"	2 ... 0
Rio (Matto Grosso)	61 ... 21	Rose-leaves	2 ... 0
Rio (Minas)	17 ... 0	Saffron	1 ... 0
Jalap	10 ... 0	Sairol	48 ... 0
Kamala	17 ... 0	Sarsaparilla	65 ... 29
Kola	23 ... 8	Scammonium	3 ... 0
Lime-juice	29 ... 5	Scammony-root ...	403 ... 0
Liquorice-juice ...	20 ... 0	Seedlac	7 ... 0
Liquorice-root	51 ... 51	Senega	10 ... 0
Liquorice-root (cwt.)	16 ... 15	Senna—	
Lootahs	7 ... 0	Alexandrian	16 ... *3
Mastich	10 ... 0	Timnevelly	509 ... 498
Menthol	10 ... 0	Soy	77 ... 0
Musk	3 ... 0	Squill	20 ... 20
Musk-seed	29 ... 1	Sticklae	37 ... 0
Myrrh	12 ... *5	Strophanthus	11 ... 0
Nux vomica	315 ... 15	Tamarinds	149 ... 6
Oil—		Tonka-beans	5 ... 0
camphor	52 ... 0	Turmeric	424 ... 10
cedarwood	4 ... 0	Wax (bees)—	
chaulmoogra	5 ... 0	Australian	6 ... 0
cinnamon-leaf ...	6 ... 0	Cape	8 ... 0
citronella	90 ... 0	Chinese	1 ... 0
cod-liver	25 ... 0	East Indian	109 ... 21
eucalyptus	123 ... 0	Italian	12 ... 0
fish	1 ... 0	Jamaica	31 ... 26
geranium	1 ... 0	Madagascar	130 ... 7
lemongrass	38 ... *16	Mogador	53 ... 0
lime	12 ... 12	Mombassa	12 ... 10
nutmeg	2 ... 0	Seychelles	1 ... 0
patchouli	16 ... 0	West Indian	1 ... 1
peppermint	50 ... 0	Zanzibar	209 ... 6
spearmint	2 ... 0	Wax, Carnauba ...	13 ... 0
vetivert	5 ... 0	Wax, Japanese ...	45 ... 0

* Sold privately.

ALOES.—Curaçao was dearer, good liver in boxes selling at 41s. to 45s. per cwt., fair at 37s., and dull liver at 19s. to 20s., subject, with common dark at 15s. 6d. to 16s. Another lot of 75 boxes of common dull and dark liver sold at from 17s. to 19s., and fair capey at 23s. per cwt. Fair hard Socotrine in kegs was limited at 80s., and for drossy false-packed hepatics in cases 20s. was paid, without reserve, if pay charges. Cape was in large supply, and sold at a reduction of from 3s. to 4s. per cwt., fair to good hard bright selling at 23s. to 26s. 6d., slight drossy ditto 22s. to 23s., dull and drossy 20s. 6d. to 21s., and soft dull and false-packed 20s. to 20s. 6d. In reference to the paragraph which appeared under this caption in our issue of November 12, page 809, we are informed that the executors of the late Mr. A. Moryoseph are still carrying on the business of drug-merchants.

ARECA.—Good bold sold at 16s. per cwt., being steady.

ASAFETIDA.—Several new parcels from the Persian Gulf were offered, and partly sold at steady prices compared with previous auction rates, although, in the case of common, prices were rather lower. The feature of the article was the sale of 2 boxes containing 10 tins each, of fine white loose tear (such as is described in the B.P.), the like of which has not been seen on this market before; 6l. 2s. 6d. was paid for it by a London wholesale druggist. Similar quality brought 6l., and for pale pinky block and loose from 65s. to 80s. was paid. 144 cases of common and medium block sold at from 11s. to 53s. per cwt., according to quality.

BALSAM, CANADA.—A barrel sold, without reserve, at 1s. 6d. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU.—Easier. Fair softish in large tins brought 9½d.; drossy to slight drossy sold at 8½d. to 8½d. per lb. Good hard genuine balsam in large tins was held at 1s. 1d. per lb.

BENZON.—Sumatra sold at about valuations, from 8l.

to 8l. 2s. 6d. per cwt. being paid for fine almondy seconds, well packed with small and medium almonds. Good almondy seconds sold rather below valuations at 6l. 15s., fair brought 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s., middling seconds 5l. to 5l. 7s. 6d. per cwt., and thirds 87s. 6d. to 92s. 6d. Of Siam a case of bold pale almonds, part blocky, sold at 14l. 17s. 6d., and 2 cases of pea-size siftings sold at 4l. to 4l. 2s. 6d. per cwt., subject to seller's approval. A bid of 11l. is to be submitted for small to medium good pale blocky almonds. Palembang was limited at 55s.

BUCHU.—Easier. Good greenish round leaf, part stalky, sold at from 7½d. to 7½d. per lb. For good green "longs" 1s. 6d. was wanted, but 1s. 3d. would be submitted for a pile.

CAMPOR.—Japanese, in various sized tablets, was held at 3s. per lb., net. According to official figures the exports of camphor from Japan for the ten months ending October were as follows:

	1902.	1903.	1904.
Kin ...	3,288,549 ...	3,710,874 ...	2,756,806.
	[Kin=1.3 lb.]		

CANNABIS INDICA.—Clipped greyish tops sold at 4s. 3d. per lb.

CARDAMOMS.—Although importers showed a disposition to meet the market, little business was effected, and that at a decline of, say, 1d. to 2d. per lb., especially on the lower grades, of which the bulk of the offerings consisted. The following prices were paid: Ceylon Mysore, good bold pale, 1s. 10d. to 2s.; bold pale, partly open, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.; medium and bold pale, 1s. to 1s. 3d.; medium pale, 11d.; small and medium pale, 8d. to 10d.; brown and splits, 6½d. to 7d. Seed, 9d. to 11d., according to quality. Good bold native wild Ceylons, slightly mouldy (4 cases), sold at from 1s. 11d. to 2s., and small at 7½d., subject.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—A feature of the auction was the offering without reserve of 704 bags, or about 14 tons (1903 crop), per *Imberhorne*, which sold at from 31s. to 32s. per cwt., gross for net, no discounts. These prices were 3s. to 4s. lower; 162 bags of two-year-old also sold, without reserve, at 30s. 6d. per cwt. Another lot of new 1904 bark was held at 35s.

CASCARILLA sold at full prices, 40 bales selling at 65s. for good bold quill, 45s. to 50s. for fair quill, part twiggy; and for 10 barrels siftings 35s. was paid.

COLOCYNTH.—Two casks of very seedy Turkey apple sold at 1s. 5d. per lb. A bale of Turkey pulp sold at 1s. 9d., without reserve, and a further bale had been sold privately.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Dearer. Three cases of good bright pippy lump, slightly damp, sold at 10l. per cwt. *Reeds* were bought in at 9l.

ELEMI partly sold at 33s. per cwt. for fair.

GALANGAL.—Ten bags of lean sold, without reserve, at 12s. per cwt.

GAMBOGE.—A new arrival of good blocky unsorted Siam pipe, slightly damp, sold at 19l. per cwt., being dearer, and a case of fine selected hand-picked pipe sold at 20l. per cwt.

GENTIAN.—Two parcels sold at from 14s. to 17s. per cwt.

GUAIACUM sold at full prices, a string of 37 cases of common drossy block selling at from 4d. to 5d. Fair medium block brought 4½d. to 6½d. per lb.

HONEY.—Steady. Good pale set Jamaica, in half-barrels, sold at 21s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. per cwt.; dark liquid, in barrels, 16s., subject, to 18s. Pale set Queensland honey in cases sold at 17s., and for 10 cases of good pale hard set New Zealand 30s. was paid. Dull set brown Honduras, in cases, sold at 20s. Low partly liquid black Chilean in half-barrels sold without reserve at from 12s. to 13s. 9d. Privately a good demand is reported, and stocks have been reduced, it being reported that the confectioners are buying up the cheaper qualities.

PECACUANHA.—The feature of this article was the offering of several parcels of Matto Grosso without reserve, owing to the troubles in the shellac-market. Good bright root sold at 4s. 9d., and ordinary to fair lean at 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d., these prices marking a decline of 3d. to 6d. per lb. Good stout, not without reserve, sold at 4s. 10d. Apart from this the principal holders of Matto Grosso were firm at from 5s. 3d. to 5s. 5d. Minas was readily obtainable at 5s. per lb., but nothing was sold. Six

packages of Johore had been sold privately, and of a string of 27 bales one sold at 5s. for good bright well-annulated root.

KOLA.—A bag of fair Jamaica sold at 3d. per lb. A bag of dull Ceylon sold at 4d. per lb., subject, and 6 other packages brought from 4d. to 4½d., subject.

MENTHOL.—Ten cases of Yazawa, offered without reserve, were bought in at 8s. 6d. per lb.—the item being the last in the drug-auction. The s.s. *Falcon*, from Havre, has arrived with 85 cases.

MUSK-SEED.—A barrel from St. Lucia sold at 3½d. per lb., subject.

MYRRH is scarce and dearer. In auction 8 bales of dark sorts had been sold privately. Good pale London picked was bought in at 9½., and dark siftings at 90s. per cwt.

NUX VOMICA.—Fifteen bags of dull Calcutta seed sold at from 10s. 6d. to 11s., and 300 bags of Madras were taken out without mention of price.

OIL, LIME.—Several sales of West Indian distilled were made at 1s. 3d. per lb.

ORANGE-PEEL in plentiful supply; 10d. per lb. was paid for several cases of fair bright thin machine-cut Tripoli strip. Good bright was held at 1s. 3d. per lb.

QUINCE-SEED.—Fair Cape was obtainable at 1s. 6d. per lb.

RHATANY.—Four bales chunky Peruvian brought 4d. per lb.

RHUBARB.—Steady. Four cases medium round Canton, with three-quarters pinky fracture, sold at from 11d. to 11½d. per lb., subject; good medium from another catalogue sold at 1s., and trimming root at 1s. 1d. High-dried sold at unaltered rates, 1s. per lb. being paid for bold flat, with three-quarters pinky fracture. Three cases small to medium flat High-dried sold at 11½d. per lb. Of Shensi a case of medium round sold at 1s. 5d., and for a case of round and flat pickings 1s. 2d. was paid.

SARSAPARILLA.—Jamaica was in small supply, and sold readily at from 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb. Native sold at from 7d. to 9d. for medium dull mixed, and 6d. for sea-damaged.

SENNA.—Tinnevely leaf was about ¼d. per lb. cheaper. Ordinary specky and yellowish leaf to middling sold at from 1½d. to 1½d., fair medium greenish 1½d. to 2d., and bolder 2½d. to 3¼d. per lb. *Pods* sold at from 1½d. to 2d. per lb.

SQUILL.—Six bags of fair sold at 2d. per lb., and a further 14 bags of dull brown brought 1½d. per lb., without reserve.

STROPHANTHUS.—Green Kombé (Mandala brand) was held at 5s. per lb.

TAMARINDS.—Six barrels fair palish Barbados tamarinds sold at from 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. per cwt.

TURMERIC.—Fair Madras finger was held at 16s., and for 9 bags common Madras bulbs 9s. was paid. Privately sellers of Bengal on the spot ask 12s. 6d.

WAX, BEES'.—Jamaica was flat and tended easier, there being little of fine quality on offer. Medium to fair red and brown mixed sold at from 7½. 2s. 6d. to 7½. 5s. per cwt. Fair red and brown Mombassa sold at 6½. 17s. 6d., subject, and for 7 packages Madagascar 6½. 12s. 6d. was paid for good hard darkish brown block; wormy sold at from 6½. 5s. to 6½. 7s. 6d. For 6 bags Zanzibar 6½. 6s. 3d. per cwt., subject, was paid; and good bright red Cape was bought in at 7½. 10s., a bid of 6½. 17s. 6d. being refused. Privately sales of fine bleached Calcutta wax have been made at 7½. 10s. per cwt. Fair bright part dark East Indian sold at 5½. 15s., and damaged at 5½. per cwt.

Heavy Chemicals.

The prevailing tone in the heavy-chemical market is of a very steady nature, and there is a fair amount of business being transacted at all the principal centres. Demand on home account is good, while exports are rather on the quiet side. Values all round are well maintained.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—There is no change of importance since last report to be mentioned, except that bleaching-powder, caustic soda, and saltcake are in rather heavier demand.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA continues on the quiet side, though a somewhat steadier tone is apparent. There are no signs, however, of a change in demand sufficient in itself to affect values. Present nearest figures are: Beekton 13½. 3s. 9d. to 13½. 5s.,

Beekton terms 13½., London 13½. 5s., Leith 12½. 17s. 6d. to 13½., and Hull 12½. 16s., 3d.

BENZOLS are quieter, at slightly lower figures of 10d. to 10½d. per gal. for 90-per-cent. and 8d. to 8½d. per gal. for 50-per-cent.

ALUMINA-PRODUCTS are in about average request, and values remain steady. Crystal alum, lump, 5½. to 5½. 5s. per ton; lump, in tierces, 5½. 5s. to 5½. 10s.; ground, in bags, 5½. 10s. to 5½. 15s. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities and practically free of iron, 4½. to 4½. 10s. per ton in casks for ordinary strength, with customary allowances for bags and loose slabs, and usual extras for higher concentration. Alumino-ferric 50s. to 60s. per ton, and aluminous cake 50s. to 55s., in accordance with package, condition, and delivery. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and high strength Al₂O₃, 12½. to 12½. 10s. per ton in large casks. Special pulp hydrate of alumina, dried in lump 37s. 6d. to 38s. per cwt., and ground 38s. to 38s. 6d. Aluminate of soda, high strength Al₂O₃, 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt., and second quality 12s. to 13s. Carbonate of alumina 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt., according to quantity, etc.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, January 18.

CHILIAN HONEY.—Thirty barrels Pile 1 have been sold at 25s. per cwt., and 20 barrels Pile 2 at 23s. 6d.

BEESWAX, CHILIAN.—Small sales have been made at 7½. 7s. 6d. to 7½. 12s. 6d. per cwt., according to quality. Holders are now somewhat firmer owing to reduced stocks, 7½. 10s. being lowest price.

CASTOR-SEED.—A recent arrival of 360 bags has been sold at the advanced price of 9s. 3d. per cwt.

ARSENIC has advanced to 12½. 10s. per ton, some talking of 13½.

OLIVE OIL.—Advices are still very unfavourable. Reports state that the hard frost has damaged the fruit which is still on the trees. Higher prices are anticipated.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Three hundred bags grey have been sold at 125s. to 130s. per cwt. A further lot of 100 bags is up for auction shortly, for which 125s. has been refused.

GUINEA GRAINS.—Small sales have been made at 37s. 6d. per cwt.

QUILLAI-BARK.—In spite of further arrivals the market remains steady at 18½. 15s. to 19½. per ton.

CASTOR OIL.—There is rather more inquiry for good seconds Calcutta, with a fair business at 2½d. to 2½d. per lb. on the spot, and holders now want 2½d. For shipment, 2½d. to 2½d. is wanted. Stocks are somewhat limited, and for shipment buyers seem unwilling to operate at the present high prices. First-pressure French is rather firmer at 2½d. to 2½d. per lb., and for shipment remains unchanged at 22½., f.o.b.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, January 17.

Business is quiet. The navigation into the interior is entirely closed with ice.

ALOE is dull, Capo being quoted 64m. per 100 kilos.

ANTIMONY is quiet, at 30½m. per 100 kilos.

CANTHARIDES is firm at 10½m. per kilo.

CAMPOR.—Refined continues firm at 700m. per 100 kilos.

CASCARA is flat and lower, on the spot at 70m., and forward delivery 60m. per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO is lower, on the spot at 60m., and forward delivery 55m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE is firm; makers' price for muriate is 470m., and second-hands quote 450m. per kilo.

CUMIN-SEED is firm at 40m. to 45m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA is firmer at 70m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT shows more demand at 305m. to 315m. per 100 kilos.

GOLDEN SEAL is firm at 14½m. to 15m. per kilo.

LYCOPODIUM is strong at 770m. per 100 kilos.

JAPANESE WAX is dull at 99m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is flat at 17½m. to 17m. per kilo.

QUININE is in better demand, makers' price is 33m. and second-hands 32m. per kilo.

SENEGA is dull; spot is quoted 600m., and forward delivery can be bought at about 550m. per 100 kilos.

SPERMACE is firm at 230m. per 100 kilos.

CASTOR OIL is advancing; first-pressing in barrels is now 45½m. per 100 kilos.

COD-LIVER OIL is quiet at 160m. per barrel.

CHINESE WOOD OIL is also quiet at 51m. per 100 kilos.

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSTANTINE (ALGERIA) twenty-eight requests for permission to search for phosphates had been made, but only sixteen were granted, in 1903.

The manufacture of caustic soda and bleaching-powder has been given up by the Canadian Electro-Chemical Co. at the Soo, owing, it is said, to United States competition.—*Commercial Intelligence.*

MR. F. B. BENNETT, chemist and optician, 37 King Street, Whitehaven, sends us a copy of his useful almanac and tide-table for 1905. Mr. Bennett is making a special feature of his sight-testing department. A diary of local events of the year is a good feature which will interest Whitehaven folk.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.
Northern District Chemists' Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

Cape Colony.

ARRIVALS AT THE CAPE.—Mr. J. C. Boyd, of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., Detroit, U.S.A., had returned to Cape Town, when the last mail left, from a tour through the country. Mrs. Boyd joined her husband there.—Mr. H. A. Richardson, of the American Chicle Co., London, has arrived in South Africa in the interests of his firm.—Mr. H. P. Davies, pharmaceutical chemist, formerly with Mr. A. Littlejohn, chemist and druggist, Canonbury, London, N., has been appointed manager of the Mowbray Pharmacy, the proprietor of which is Mr. S. C. Sivertsen, who owns a drug-store in Observatory, and makes that his headquarters. He has the railway dispensing contract for the centres in which he is located.—Mr. George Taylor, of Messrs. W. J. Bush & Co., Ltd., London, is among the latest arrivals at Cape Town. He has just concluded a business trip along the littoral.

THE MARCH OF THE MEDICOES.—The report of the Colonial Medical Council for the half-year ended June 30, 1904, states that, after careful consideration of the best means to be adopted in the Cape Colony to promote the aims of the recently established Cancer Research Fund, the Council recommended Government to supply "Cancer and Malignant Disease Record-books" for compulsory use in all Government and State-aided hospitals, and for distribution to all private hospitals and medical practitioners willing to keep the same. A recommendation by the Medical Officer of Health for the Colony that erysipelas should be proclaimed a compulsorily notifiable disease was referred by Government to the Council for an expression of its opinion. The Council unanimously endorsed the recommendation, and it was thereupon adopted by Government. The Medical Council further observe in the report that it has had under observation several institutions which have appeared to be infringing the Medical Acts, and in more than one case criminal proceedings have actually been instituted. The whole question of an amended Medical and Pharmacy Act is at present before the Council.

Natal.

CHRISTMAS TRADE.—From a business point of view (writes our Durban correspondent) the festive season this year will be very far short of what we have been used to in previous years. Most of the pharmacies are working with reduced staffs, and even with these the time hangs heavily in a good many places. Several of the chemists make an attractive display of perfumery and toilet-goods, but there is nothing startling or original.

A GLOBE-TROTTER.—Few assistants are so fortunate as Mr. Richard P. Gale, who has been principal assistant for the last eight years with Mr. S. K. Elgie, of Durban. Mr. Gale has just started on a six-months' trip (passing *en route*, Cape Town) for Melbourne, Sydney, and New Zealand; then to San Francisco, Chicago, Niagara Falls, around several of the American cities, and on to New York: thence to England for a short stay, previous to returning to South Africa.

PRESCRIBING BY CHEMISTS.—In commenting upon this subject in a recent issue, it was stated that the medical profession in Maritzburg held very strong antagonistic opinions, and that a prosecution case had been withdrawn at the last moment. Since then, an interesting sidelight has been revealed dealing with the rights of counter-prescribing in the neighbouring Colony of the Transvaal. The recent important decision of Judge Koetze (*C. & D.*, December 31, 1904, p. 1044) in dismissing a case brought against a chemist

for prescribing will probably form a precedent in the law courts of South Africa.

Transvaal.

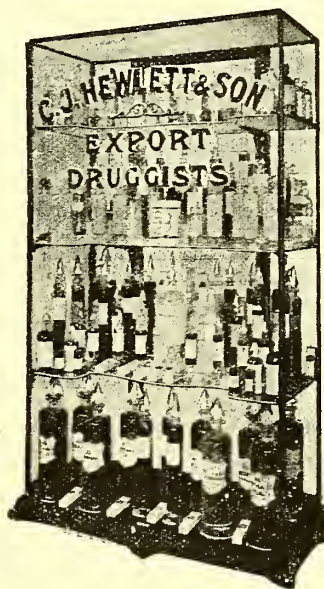
DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS one of the pioneers of the De Kaap Goldfields, Mr. Charles Edwards, died at Barberton from an overdose of chlorodyne.

A PAINFUL SENSATION was caused at Roodepoort on December 23, 1904, when it was reported that Mr. Samuel Davison, partner in the firm of Thomson & Davison, chemists, of Roodepoort and Randfontein, had died suddenly at Randfontein that afternoon. Mr. Davison was connected with the firm of Jolly & Co., chemists, for some time prior to the war, and was in charge of that firm's Randfontein branch. After the war Mr. Davison joined in partnership with Mr. Charles Thomson, of Roodepoort, and after being there a few months the firm opened a branch in Randfontein, of which Mr. Davison took charge. He had many friends both in Roodepoort and Randfontein, where he was esteemed by everyone with whom he came in contact. It is reported that carbolic-acid poisoning was the cause of death.

THE CAPE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

OUR Cape correspondent, continuing his report on this exhibition, says a well-arranged and pretty little kiosk immediately on the left on entering the exhibition grounds is occupied by Messrs. Wm. Cooper & Nephews, sheep-dip manufacturers. They show models of their "dip-baths" complete in every detail: even the figures of the assistants and animals are in position. It goes without saying that Cooper's dip figures prominently about the kiosk, and to those interested in pastoral pursuits there are several booklets in both English and the *taal* free for the asking.

Messrs. Breffits', Ltd., London, show in Block "Y" an assortment of bottles such as one usually finds in a well-appointed drug-store, together with Codd's bottles, van-boxes, fancy perfume-bottles, etc.



AN EXHIBIT DESCRIBED LAST WEEK.

The Tasmanian Eucalyptus Oil Co., Ltd., 138 Leadenhall Street, London, make an exhibit of their well-known "Platypus" and other kinds of eucalyptus oil, together with eucalyptus pastilles, inhalers, etc. The exhibit, which is in the hands of Messrs. Colley & Co., Ltd., Cape Town, includes one of the company's chameleon cabinets, which attracts much attention.

Messrs. Day, Son & Hewitt, London, exhibit through their agents, Messrs. Parker & Co., Port Elizabeth, a full range of their remedies. This stand should be of special

interest to the farming community. There are medicine-chests specially fitted for stockbreeders and others for horsekeepers; and on looking over the assortment, the conclusion arrived at is that if the up-country farmer cannot pick out a medicine-chest to suit him, then, indeed, he must be hard to please. The display is well arranged, and we understand that the representative in charge speaks Cape Dutch—a knowledge of which is very necessary if one wants to get the average farmer fully interested.

The Rheumaticuro Co., Cape Town, proprietors of Jones's "Rheumaticuro," have a stand in Block "R." The London agents are Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., and Messrs. Sutton & Co.; while Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co. are the agents for Australasia. "Rheumaticuro" is said to be the only South African proprietary medicine that has really "caught on" in South Africa—certainly one finds it wherever white men are located in any number, whether they are at Cape L'Agulhas or in the far-away wilds of Northern Rhodesia. The company spends a lot of money keeping this speciality in front of the public, and is one of the largest advertisers—if not the largest—operating and actually located in South Africa. Jones's Rheumaticuro vegetable liver-pills, another of the firm's products, also appear in the exhibit.

In Block "I," No. 48, Messrs. Mayer, Metzler & Co., London, Melbourne, and Cape Town, exhibit surgical instruments and furniture for operating-theatres. Surgical engines for sawing and drilling bones, opening skulls, etc., are among the special features of the exhibit. There is a good selection of instruments for general surgery, ophthalmic surgery, laryngological, rhinological, otological and gynaecological practice; also of artificial limbs, abdominal belts, elastic stockings, etc.

The United Alkali Co., Ltd., of Liverpool, exhibits chemical products, and has its stand in Block "I." Special attention is drawn to the company's bicarbonate of soda for mineral-water makers, and caustic soda in small and large containers. Sulphuric, hydrochloric, and acetic acids, chloride of lime, disinfectants, fertilisers, etc., are all shown to advantage, and druggists and aerated-water manufacturers will do well to look over the stand if they have not already done so, as they will find much of interest—in prices as well as quality, it is stated.

Messrs. Bratby & Hinchliffe, Ltd., Manchester, London, Glasgow, Birmingham, etc., have erected a model soda-water plant, which is very showy and capable of turning out fully 2,000 dozen aerated waters per day. Among the many machines exhibited is the "Meteor," comprising a pair of 3-inch pumps, and 15-gal. gunmetal cylinder, provided with separate saturators for each pump. The saturators are extremely ingenious, dividing the gas and water into very fine particles, thus giving the largest amount of saturation of gas. The machine is also fitted with glass purifiers, and the water-tank with cooling-pipes, for the reduction of the temperature of both gas and water. The carbonic-acid gas which is used in the manufacture of aerated waters is produced by a horizontal lead generator, and stored in a large oak gasometer, fitted with a copper bell, tinned both inside and out. The part of the plant for filling bottles is ingenious. There is the "Standard" steam-filling machine, which is really a double turnover driven by power. It fills and syrups glass ball-stoppered bottles at the rate of 120 to 130 dozen per hour. The filling heads revolve intermittently, pausing for a bottle to be placed in the machine while the bottle is upright, thus allowing the air to be perfectly snifted from the bottle. The speed of the filling is regulated by means of screws, which allow of perfect adjustment for the different capacities of bottles. The "Monarch" hand-machine, the "Rapid" cork bottling-machine, a small "Orient" soda-water machine, and other interesting machinery, besides essences, are also shown, the whole being under the supervision of Messrs. F. H. Clarke & Co., Ltd., Cape Town, Johannesburg, etc., sole agents in South Africa.

There is but one exhibit from the Garden Colony of interest to *C. & D.* readers, and that is by Messrs. W. J. Hindson & Co., Ltd., tea-growers, Natal. Besides showing the different blends and grades of tea that this firm produces the proprietary line "Natalinda" is well to the fore. This is a blend of Natal, Indian, and Ceylon teas and is in special demand, we are told, in Natal itself, and is now on

the Cape market. The tea-industry of Natal is forging ahead by leaps and bounds, thanks largely to this firm and a parental Government. Great improvements have been made during the past five years in the manufacture of Natal teas, and there is no real reason why Natal growers should not do better in Cape Colony than they do: the market only wants cultivating. Messrs. Hindson are now paying attention in this connection, and placarded along the railroad and on hoardings is a striking poster of a Natal Zulu boy (piccaninny size) in a sitting position, with his red striped nickers showing up against his black skin, pouring out "Natalinda" tea. Having refreshed ourselves here with a cup of "Natalinda," brewed specially for us by Mr. Hindson's charming wife, we pass on to the stand of

Messrs. Oakes & Co., Ltd., Madras, cigar-manufacturers, who exhibit through Messrs. Millar Bros., tobacconists, Cape Town. During the temporary absence of the assistant a young lady was in charge who could not tell us much about cigars except to give an invitation to help ourselves to an "Anglo-Indian."

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF THE TRANSVAAL.

THE first annual dinner took place on December 23, 1904, in the Masonic Hall, Jeppe Street, Johannesburg. Mr. Lewis Thomas, President of the Society, occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. Howard Pim (Deputy Mayor of Johannesburg), Dr. F. H. Napier, Mr. A. Macdonald (Hon. Secretary of the Society), Dr. Mursel, Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie, Mr. Smith, Mr. C. Keir, and Mr. M. Torrente, the last-named being the representative of the Chemical and Metallurgical Society. Apologies for absence were intimated from Dr. Turner, Medical Officer of Health for the Transvaal, and from Mr. Adcock, Krugersdorp. About sixty members and friends of the Society were present. "The King" having been honoured, Mr. Howard Pim proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal," in doing which he said the Society was, he believed, on the threshold of important new developments which would make the new year something like a millennium for chemists. The Chairman, replying, traced the history of the Society, the first meeting of which, he said, was held in 1895, at the Gold-fields Hotel. This meeting was the result of a conversation which took place between two chemists. The great difficulty experienced at that time was that chemists were unable to sell "Rough on Rats" without getting into trouble—in fact, some of them did get into trouble. The speaker then gave details of the inception of the Pharmacy Ordinance, and paid a tribute to the excellent services rendered in this connection by the Medical Society, and especially by Dr. Napier. The Transvaal has at the present time one of the best pharmacy laws in existence.

The toast of

THE MEDICAL SOCIETY

was proposed by Mr. B. Owen Jones. He said that the relationship between the medical men and the chemists of the Colony was vastly different from that in Great Britain and the other Colonies. This had been clearly demonstrated by the interest evinced in the drafting of the Medical, Dental, and Pharmacy Act, which had now practically come into existence, and which would be fully recognised at the commencement of the new year. This combination in itself—even in its nomenclature—clearly showed the united stand taken by doctors and chemists, and from the time of the drafting of the initial stages of the Bill it had been the greatest satisfaction to know that the medical profession had recognised the necessity for taking the chemist under the Medical Society's wing. Dr. Napier, in reply, said with reference to the Ordinance that in giving so much honour to the Medical Society they had somewhat under-estimated what the Pharmaceutical Society had done. It was the Society which drafted those clauses which were now embodied in the Ordinance. It was a representative of the Pharmaceutical Society who, in conjunction with the committee of the Medical Society, helped to knock these clauses into shape. He had every reason to believe that it was the well-known integrity of the Pharmaceutical Society, and the individuals who represented it, which had such weight with the Attorney-General when he championed their

cause when the Ordinance was before the Legislative Council. (Hear, hear.) He thought that the chemists of this town were to be congratulated upon their choice of men to represent them upon the Pharmacy Board. "The Pharmacy Board" was proposed by Mr. C. Keir, and acknowledged by Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie. Mr. R. Butters gave "The Chemical and Metallurgical Society," and Mr. M. Torrente replied. An excellent musical programme was contributed during the evening.

N.Z. Patent-medicine Move.

Deputation to the N.Z. Agent-General.

ON Friday, January 13, the Hon. W. P. Reeves, Agent-General for New Zealand, received simultaneously at 13 Victoria Street, Westminster, deputations from the Proprietary Articles Trade Association and the Manufacturers' Association. The P.A.T.A. was represented by Messrs. Percy C. Edgar (President), J. Wylde, George R. Barclay, Horace Davenport, E. W. Grimwade, Charles Sharland, and W. S. Glyn-Jones (Secretary), and the Manufacturers' Association by Messrs. John Morgan Richards (Vice-President), G. N. Copeman, T. A. Platt, C. Wilkes, and C. Urquhart Fisher (Secretary).

Mr. Glyn-Jones introduced the P.A.T.A. deputation, and stated that the views of his Association had been set forth as concisely as possible in the letter which he had already sent to the Agent-General. This set forth the representative character of the Association, and stated that the effect of the regulations leaves open to the proprietors but two courses—(1) to disclose to the whole world the contents with the exact proportions of their medicines, or (2) to cease doing business in New Zealand—and otherwise pointed out how impracticable and unjust are the regulations. Emphasis was placed on the fact that nothing but serious danger or inconvenience to the public would justify the enactment of such sweeping regulations, and his Excellency's attention was called to the opinion that the power conferred by the Public Health Act applies to patent medicines, and does not extend to proprietary medicines.

Mr. C. Urquhart Fisher, on behalf of the Manufacturers' Association, stated that the regulations complained of came to every member of his association as a surprise, the course of trading in proprietary articles having now been established many years. There are many old family remedies of great value which are proprietary articles, and the only protection which exists for them is not a patent but a secret process or formula known only to the inventor or his successors in business. Disclosure of the formula would take away this protection. The reason for such disclosure was not at all apparent. The usual purchaser of such an article was not interested in the formula, and the people who would read it with care were probably only those who would do so with a view to putting up an inferior counterfeit, and depriving the rightful owner of a reputation built up by expenditure of labour and money. He further argued that in crushing this large industry a considerable branch of trade between the Mother Country and her Colonies would die out, involving sudden and serious loss not only here, but to various concerns in the Colony, and this at a time when the knitting together of business-ties was in everyone's mouth.

Mr. Grimwade, Mr. Davenport, and Mr. Wylde also spoke.

The Agent-General, in reply, stated that he was impressed with the representative character of the deputations, and he would be glad to convey that impression to his Government. Sir Joseph Ward, the Minister of Public Affairs, was himself a business-man, and he was sure he would not desire to interfere more than was absolutely necessary in the interests of the public health with so important a business as that which the members of the deputations represented. He could, of course, hold out no promise on behalf of the Government of New Zealand, but he was sure the representations which had been made to him that day by the deputations would be carefully considered by the Government.

Mr. John Morgan Richards, on behalf of both Associations, thanked the Agent-General for receiving the

deputations, and for the careful attention he had given to the subject.

Sir J. G. Ward Wavers.

A large representative deputation of druggists waited on Sir J. G. Ward, N.Z. Minister of Public Health, at Dunedin, on Friday, November 25, 1904, for the purpose of discussing the new regulations. The deputation was accompanied by members of the Chamber of Commerce, and by Messrs. H. D. Bedford, J. A. Millar, J. F. Arnold, and T. K. Sidey, members of the House of Representatives. Mr. J. A. Millar briefly introduced the deputation, whose case was first stated by Mr. Henton, of Kempthorne, Prosser & Co., who said patent medicines have been a recognised article of commerce and trade in this Colony since its inception. They are largely used by all classes of the community, especially in the out-districts of the Colony. These medicines are the result of considerable experience and skill, and it would be a great hardship if the sale of them were summarily cut off. The stocks held are large, and until June 30, 1905, is too short a time to clear them. Independently of that, Mr. Henton complained that the regulations are too drastic, and pointed out that in Germany the formula of a medicine is lodged with the Government, and not placed on the bottle for everyone to read. He considered that the great patent-medicine proprietors of the world will not divulge their formula in New Zealand. It would simply mean that the importation of these medicines would be stopped, and thus involve a very serious loss in revenue. Chemists and storekeepers from all parts of the Colony protested against the regulations as being detrimental to the interest of the public. What, he asked, can be the reasons for these regulations? Chemists and druggists who have been in the trade for the last thirty years state that they have never known a case where harm has been done through taking patent medicines. There was one exception—chlorodyne—and at the last revision of the tariff Sir Joseph G. Ward himself was reported to have advocated passing this article on the free list, as it was "a boon, and required by the out-settlers."

Mr. C. W. Rattray said that Mr. Moloney and he represented the Chamber of Commerce. They felt that the regulations, if carried out, would not only be unreasonable but unnecessary.

Mr. Marshall, of Marshall's Chemical Co., Ltd., objected to every proprietary medicine containing a poison being so labelled, as it would scare the public against medicines of undoubted merit and world-wide reputation. He mentioned in illustration Fellows's syrup, Collis-Browne's chlorodyne and Singleton's eye-ointment. He had never known of a single case of the public being injured by the use of patent and proprietary preparations that have a good sale in New Zealand, and he had sold them all. Mr. Marshall proceeded to inform the Minister in regard to the virtues of medicines which are technical poisons, and concluded by saying that the regulations in their present form are not required, one potent reason being on account of the injustice they would be to the New Zealand proprietary-medicine manufacturers, who had expended much money in building up trade, and it would not be fair to wipe out the expenditure of much capital by the stroke of a pen.

Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Moloney, Mr. J. Neil, Mr. Kohn (of P. Hayman & Co.), and Mr. Loasby having also spoken, Sir J. G. Ward, in reply, said:

I am only too glad to have heard the representations that have been made from the important branch of trade and business represented by the deputation. It is not necessary for me to tell you that the regulations have been put into operation upon the recommendation of the professional advisers in the Health Department. One reason for the regulations, in the first instance, is on account of the representations that have been made by people during the last eighteen months. They have sent samples, and, with regard to some of the patent medicines that had been sold, I have credible information showing that in some cases they contained a considerable portion of poison without the slightest indication on the labels conveying that intimation to the consumers. I should like to say that in England it is the law that where poison is contained in any article in the shape of patent medicines it must be printed on the outside of the bottle, and the information conveyed to me at different times before the regulations were put into operation has shown that there is a considerable amount of poison of various forms being circulated throughout the country, and no one knows he is consuming it. I think there

is a wrong conception in the minds of those making representations to me. Nine-tenths of what are alleged to be patent medicines are not patent medicines at all, because there is no patent for them. I feel sure that it is far from the desire of anyone to compel manufacturers to disclose their secret or business in any way. That is not the object of the regulations, but, at the same time, we want to have some reasonable means of protection for the public at large in the consumption of either medicines or anything else, and that alone is what we are concerned in. I recognise in respect to the stocks, for instance, in the country that it will not be a proper thing to cause any loss. I do not want to see anything of the kind happen. Probably, in the first instance, if the time be postponed, so as to give an opportunity of fuller inquiry into the whole of these regulations, this will to some extent meet some of the objections urged in that direction. The manufacturers of medicines in New Zealand might send the formula to the Minister of Public Health, and examinations could be made by the medical men employed, and if the public were protected the manufacturers need not give away their formula on the labels. In the Old Country it had been found that some of the soothing-syrups sent out contain a considerable portion of poison, and some of the best medical men in this country had declared that a great deal of harm had been done to children in ignorance by mothers through the use of soothing-syrups.

Mr. Loasby: The chemists agree in that.

Sir Joseph Ward: I am glad to hear that, because it shows the necessity of protection by mothers of their children. Well, then, the Government are right in trying to protect the users of these soothing-syrups in New Zealand. Consequently there should be some opportunity given to the public of having the formula examined. I think there should be an examination of the formula by some officer of the Public Health Department instead of having it printed on the labels. The object of the regulations is not for the purpose of harassing the important business in which the deputation are concerned, but what the Government want to do is to try to ensure to purchasers of patent medicines that they are not taking something that is injurious. On my return to Wellington I will look into the matter with the officers of the Health Department, with a view to seeing in what direction, while protecting the public, we can assist the manufacturers, so as not to interfere with the legitimate progress of the business generally, which I am anxious to see carried out in every possible way.

Mr. Loasby said that the Pharmaceutical Associations throughout the Colony would be pleased to assist the Health Department.

Sir Joseph Ward: I shall be glad to consider that.

The deputation thanked the Minister, and then withdrew.

Another Deputation

saw Sir Joseph Ward at Wellington on Friday, December 9. It represented American, Australasian, English, and New Zealand manufacturers of proprietary medicines, and was introduced to the Minister by Mr. W. E. Woods, who stated that he had seen nothing to justify the demand for the regulations. Mr. Cobb (Bonington's Irish Moss), Mr. R. E. Wood (Kempthorne, Prosser & Co.), Mr. W. Larkin (Sharland & Co.), Mr. Miller (Gallan & Co., agents for Mellin's food), and Mr. T. Cumings (Wanganui) also spoke, the arguments being substantially the same as at Dunedin.

Sir Joseph Ward, in his reply, mentioned that the regulations were the result of recommendations made by Dr. Mason, Chief Health Officer, and he had asked him if medical men and chemists had instigated them. Dr. Mason said, "No, never at any time." The suggestions were the outcome of analyses of various proprietary articles submitted to the Department, and Dr. Mason informed him that articles designated patent medicines were circulated in the Colony which a medical man would be criminally prosecuted for prescribing. Sir Joseph proceeded to tell the deputation other things that Dr. Mason had told him, especially about the injurious character of certain imported things, when Mr. Woods said the regulations are the extreme view of an extreme mind, and he heatedly added that no respectable man would import such things.

Ultimately Sir Joseph stated that he would alter the regulations, probably so as to require the formula to be sent to the Chief Health Officer, to whom only would it be available. Further, that medicines containing an infinitesimal quantity of poisons would not be treated as poisons.

India and the East.

(News from our own Correspondents.)

DR. J. M. COMLEY has been appointed general manager of Messrs. P. Scott Thompson & Co., Ltd., wholesale druggists, Calcutta. This is the fourth change in as many months.

THE BOMBAY EXHIBITION.—One of the most attractive exhibits in this exhibition is that of John Gosnell & Co., Ltd., perfumers. The company's local representative, Mr. James Wright, had imported 2,000 advertising-fans, which he intended to give away, but the lot was cleared out in six days at 4s. each, and the visitors, numbering about 20,000 a day, clamoured for more. Messrs. Tothill, Sharp & Co., are showing the preparations of Henri Nestlé and Aëratours Limited, and the pharmaceutical specialties of Lorimer & Co., Ltd., are shown in the same court by Mr. Wright. Messrs. Kemp & Co., wholesale chemists, Bombay, have an attractive stand near by. They show general drug and sundry lines. Messrs. Thomson & Taylor, of Bombay, have an "Izal" exhibit. These are the principal pharmaceutical exhibitors, as Treacher & Co., Ltd., withdrew at the last moment owing to some disagreement with the management.

LAWS FOR MEDICOS.—The Straits Legislative Council is at present engaged on a "Medical Registration Ordinance," which has already passed the first reading. Hitherto there has been no legislation in the interests of medical men in the Colony, and this Ordinance provides for the formation of a Medical Council, consisting of the Principal Civil Medical Officer and two other medical officers in the public service to be nominated by the Governor, and two medical practitioners to be selected by the Malaya Branch of the British Medical Association. The Council is empowered to publish a register of all properly qualified persons, and holders of British, Indian, British Colonial, European, American, and Japanese diplomas will be recognised. The Council is also given powers to deal with gross cases of unprofessional conduct, but no other special powers are conferred on it. Clause 21 reads:

Nothing contained in this Ordinance shall be construed to prohibit or prevent the practice of native systems of therapeutics, according to ancient Indian, Chinese, or other Asiatic method.

STRAITS POISON BILL.—The following are the poisons suggested for inclusion in this Bill. Alterations may take place before its final enactment:

Arsenic and its preparations.
Prussic acid.
Cyanide of potash and all metallic cyanides.
Strychnine and all vegetable poisons and poisonous vegetables.
Alkaloids and their salts.
Emetic tartar.
Corrosive sublimate.
Cantharides.
Savin and its oil.
Ergot of rye and its preparations.
Datura and its preparations.
Carbolic acid.
Oxalic acid.
Chloroform.
Belladonna and its preparations.
Essential oil of almonds unless deprived of prussic acid.
Opium and all preparations of opium and of poppies.

The suggested clauses affecting chemists are:

No person shall without a licence from the Principal Civil Medical Officer sell or keep for sale, or expose or offer for sale, any article declared to be a poison under the provisions of this Ordinance.

The P.C.M.O. shall issue to such persons as he may consider of sufficient skill and habitual caution a licence to sell poisons, wholesale or retail, and such licence may be general or limited, and he may, with the sanction of the Governor, revoke and cancel any such licence.

Licences issued for one year unless revoked.

Fee for licence \$10 (12.).

Books to be kept registering particulars of sales of poisons.

The fourth item in the Poisons Schedule is rather quaint.